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THE TIMES

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New Sizewell reactor given the go-ahead

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Government yesterday gave the go-ahead for the building of the Sizewell B Pressurized Water Reactor nuclear power station on the Suffolk coast. The decision was immediately condemned by Labour and Alliance spokesmen.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, said that he had considered the relevance of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in the Soviet Union but that had made no difference to his decision. The Chernobyl reactor had been of a different type and the UK had a "superior safety culture" to the Soviet Union. All nuclear power stations in Britain had to have engineered control and automatic protection systems.

He told MPs that he had accepted the advice of the Chief Inspector of Nuclear Installations that there was no need to reconsider the conclusions of the Layfield Report, which recommended the go-ahead for Sizewell after the longest planning inquiry in British history, in the light of the subsequent Chernobyl disaster.

He had also taken into account recent changes in electricity demand and in coal prices.

Mr Walker said that he *agreed with Sir Frank* Layfield, the inquiry inspector, that Sizewell B was "acceptably safe and would meet a national need by providing new capacity at least cost".

Mr Stan Orme, Labour's energy spokesman, said that he was "astonished" that Mr Walker should have dismissed *as insignificant the events* since the end of the Layfield inquiry. He repeated Labour's pledge to cancel the PWR when in government. The Government's decision, he insisted, was based on out of date information.

Mr Walker told the Commons that there was no way of meeting Britain's power needs in the foreseeable future without a substantial contribution from nuclear power. It already provided 20 per cent of Britain's power and that would rise to 25 per cent. He *repeated Sir Frank's finding* that "there is good confidence that Sizewell B was sufficiently safe to be tolerable and that the national need for the station overrides the local interest in favour of conservation".

The electricity industry marked the Government's approval of the Sizewell nuclear power station project last night by immediately announcing that it will seek permission to build a similar type of station at Hinkley Point in Somerset. The Hinkley Point Power Station will be built alongside the two existing nuclear reactors on *the site*.

The building of Sizewell B will still be subject to detailed local planning conditions proposed by the inquiry report. The CEGB will have to be given a licence by the independent Nuclear Installations Inspectorate, which has to approve each major stage in the design, construction, operation and eventual decommissioning of Sizewell.

Mr Walker's announcement yesterday represents the green light for a new generation of nuclear power installations in Britain. If the CEGB seeks further PWR stations ministers will not see the need for public inquiries on the same scale in future so long as the reactor design is similar to that at Sizewell.

Mr Walker envisages a steady increase in the proportion of Britain's energy needs to be supplied by nuclear power to around 35-40 per cent, though he intends to maintain a substantial presence of coal-fired power stations.

The Government, which has been forced to leave the field to the anti-nuclear power protestors while Mr Walker was making his decision on Sizewell B, now plans to mount a major offensive to sell *the advantages of nuclear* power and the Sizewell decision in particular.

The PWR project is expected to provide some 13,000 jobs, *3,500* on site and a further 10,000 in supply and services, and to be completed by the mid-1990s.

Mr Walker told MPs that *93 per cent of the work on the* £1.5 billion Sizewell project would go to British workers. Under the commercial arrangement with Westinghouse Britain *will* get a still higher proportion of the work on any export contracts for PWR stations gained in the world market once the *know-how has been acquired.*

Job security, page 2
Parliament, page 4
Frank Johnson, page 18

Strike hits a million children

The two biggest teaching unions said a million children in England lost some schooling yesterday when 30,000 teachers in 11 areas joined the second half-day strike in protest against the Government's pay-and-conditions deal.

Walsall, Coventry and Gwynedd will be hit today.

Attenborough C4 chairman

Sir Richard Attenborough, the film director, will take over as chairman of Channel 4 when Mr Edmund Dell retires in June, it was announced yesterday.

TIMES SPORT

Border raid

Graeme Souness, the Rangers *player-manager*, has *again* turned to the English transfer market with Gary Mills, the £150,000-rated Nottingham Forest midfield player, as his target Page 40

TIMES BUSINESS

EMS in view

The City believes the Chancellor could announce in his Budget next week that he is taking the pound into the European Monetary System Page 23

Sales improve

The latest CBI distributive trades survey shows that after poor February sales, business this month has picked up Page 23

BT profits up

British Telecom shares fell 4p to 242p after it announced an 11.7 per cent rise in pretax profits to £1.51 billion, on a nine months' turnover of £7 billion Page 23

Portfolio

● There is £8,000 to be won today in The Times Portfolio Gold competition, double the usual amount because there was no winner yesterday.
● Portfolio list page 29

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Mr Edward Heath and Mr Roy Jenkins at Oxford yesterday (Photograph: Tim Bishop).

Graduates flock to record poll

By Sarah Thompson
Education Reporter

A record turnout of nearly 3,000 retired clergymen, schoolteachers, academics and other Oxford graduates shuffled patiently into Oxford University's Convocation Hall yesterday.

For three hours they flocked in to record their votes in the most publicized election of a Chancellor ever seen.

All the signs were that Mr Roy Jenkins will, when the result is announced tomorrow afternoon, narrowly beat Mr Edward Heath into second place, with Lord Blake, Provost of Queen's College, in a respectable third place.

The candidates all agreed that the turnout was astounding – clearly close to the 3,900 who voted in the election won in 1960 by Lord Stockton. The final count may total up to 9,000.

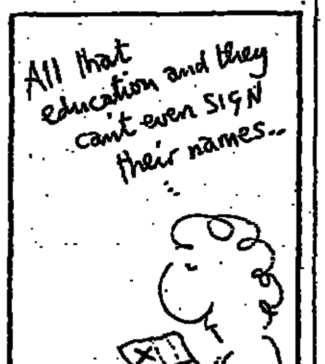
Pre-poll speculation has focused on the financial crisis at Oxford but the MAs voting yesterday were chiefly concerned with the personalities *and not the* "issues".

My own straw poll of 100 MAs at the beginning of the poll showed that the day began well for Lord Blake.

But by the end of the afternoon a second straw poll showed the two politicians were level-pegging with 28 per cent each.

Tomorrow the younger supporters of both Mr Heath and Mr Jenkins are expected to clinch the matter.

Not one of the MAs in my *sample admitted to voting for* Dr Mark Payne, the 66-1 outsider who wants to organize a summer arts festival in the city.



All that education and they can't even SIGN their names...

Natural mother is given custody of surrogacy twins

By Craig Seton

A surrogate mother made legal history yesterday when she was granted custody of twins she was paid to bear for a childless couple.

The twins were the first to be born in Britain as a result of a surrogacy agreement. The natural mother broke down in tears when Sir John Arnold, president of the High Court Family Division, awarded her custody at a sitting in Stafford, so that the maternal bond she had forged with the children could continue.

It was the first time that a surrogate mother had been awarded custody of children conceived as a result of surrogacy agreements, which are now illegal when a third party is involved commercially.

Sir John had considered the case for three days in private chambers because of its urgency. His judgement comes after Wednesday's High Court *decision to give a childless* couple, who paid a woman £5,000 to have the husband's baby, the right to adopt the child. The natural mother did not contest custody.

In the Stafford case, the natural mother, known only as Mrs P, gave birth to the twins, a boy and girl, almost six months ago and was contesting custody with their father, a married professional man of Asian extraction who donated sperm by artificial insemination and agreed to *pay a lump sum to adopt the* children.

After the birth the mother refused to hand them over to the father and his wife, known as Mr and Mrs B, who were unable to have children of their own.

As a result of the disagreement both parties went independently to a local authority, which made the twins wards of court, but let them stay with their natural mother, who was living on social security with a son, aged seven.

After the private hearing, Sir John, in an hour-long judgement in open court yesterday, told Mrs P and Mr and Mrs B that nothing he had heard "might be taken to outweigh the advantages to these children of preserving the link to the mother to whom they are bonded, and who has exercised a satisfactory degree of maternal care".

He could see nothing shameful in Mr and Mrs B dearly wanting a child and Mrs P freely offering herself in the role of surrogate mother and approaching them for that purpose.

The judge said that two months before the birth Mrs P was "assailed by doubts" about whether she ought to go through with the bargain. Those doubts were induced by maternal feelings and not a conviction about the suitability of Mr and Mrs B.

Sir John said: "The welfare of the children is the first and paramount consideration, which the court must by statute take into account and that is what I do.

"I start from the position that these babies are bonded with their mother in a state of domestic care by her of a satisfactory nature."

He said there might be a view that there was in certain circumstances an element concerning surrogacy agreements "which is repellant to proper ideas about the procreation of children so as to *make any such agreement* one which should be rejected by the law as being contrary to public policy."

"It is not necessary in this case to come to any conclusion on that point."

Some also might regard the willingness of the two parties to enter into a surrogacy agreement would reflect on their moral outlook so as to disqualify them from potential custody at all. "I do not think that factor comes into the present case."

Mother's letter 3

● The British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering said last night that it was likely that an increasing number of cases would now be decided in favour of the natural mother (Our Social Services Correspondent writes).

Lawyers said also that both this week's judgements on surrogacy arrangements were made in the interests of the child, irrespective of surrogacy law, as was the judgement on Baby Cotton in 1985.

Thatcher refuses to help Liverpool

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister refused yesterday to intervene to help Liverpool out of its new financial crisis as Britain's fifth largest city passed out of the control of the Labour Party and into a temporary political vacuum.

After Liverpool's 47 rebel Militant-led Labour councillors lost their final legal battle to avoid disqualification from office, the *Alliance*, as the largest political grouping left, was preparing to take over a council running into deeper and deeper debt.

Decisions by the outgoing Labour administration in the last hours of its life have run up big new capital commitments.

The House of Lords ruling confirmed a £106,000 surcharge on the councillors for "wilful misconduct" in delaying setting a rate. They also face a bill for costs of some *£400,000.*

The Alliance, apparently reluctant to assume Labour's mantle with both the council elections and by-elections for *the disqualified* councillors taking place on May 7, appealed for an all-party approach to the city's problems.

The move was backed by the Labour leadership with Dr John Cunningham, Labour's chief spokesman on the environment, making it plain he was sympathetic to a united approach for more funds for the city.

In the Commons, Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, appealed to the Prime Minister to meet a deputation from the city made up of political, church and business leaders.

But the Prime Minister refused, saying that "those who are democratically elected must learn to take responsibility for their actions".

Her decision was immediately condemned. Mr David Alton, the Liberal chief whip, said that people would regard her decision as "having left the citizens of Liverpool to stew in their own juice". He added that the city's corporate debt stood at £800 million.

In the wake of her statement, the Alliance's Liverpool group was meeting last night to decide whether to form an administration. The indications were that eventually it would, but perhaps not for several days. An emergency meeting of the council has been called for next Tuesday, the earliest a formal transfer of power could take place.

Parliament 4
Law Report 31

Mr Steel last night called on the *Prime Minister* to reconsider her decision when she became more aware of the problems facing the city. "There has to be a concerted effort to try to get the city's finances right and the Government must be ready to help. Liverpool is one of the great cities of this country and it is not the fault of its citizens that it is in this mess."

Dr Cunningham said yesterday that the disqualification of the councillors and the surcharge "was the inevitable *result of a course of action* pursued by the city council at the behest of the now wholly discredited Militant Tendency".

Mr Neil Kinnock said last night that the Prime Minister's refusal to meet the delegation was strange. There would have been no disadvantage to her in doing so.

Ferry capsized 'after hitting harbour wall'

By Richard Owen and Thompson Prentice, Zeebrugge

New evidence suggesting that the Herald of Free Enterprise ferry struck part of the harbour wall and was forced into a 180-degree uncontrollable turn because of damage to its propellers emerged yesterday.

The evidence came from port experts at Zeebrugge who have come to the provisional conclusion that part of the eastern wall of the harbour mouth was struck by the propellers of the ship as it moved out to sea. At least three propellers are believed to have been damaged, probably by striking one of the two-ton rocks beneath the surface which supports the harbour wall.

The experts have not ruled out that a 50-foot steel pipe, lost from another ship several months ago and never found, may also have contributed to the accident.

That is being put to the investigating Nauticial Commission in Antwerp and *will become part of the evidence* presented to the Belgian judicial inquiry.

The experts who have looked at the propellors believe that the open doors of the ferry were not therefore the direct cause of the accident but accelerated the capsize by allowing the sudden inrush of water to the vehicle deck.

They believe that the disaster happened because of a combination of the propellors being damaged, the doors being open and possibly other factors associated with the loading of the ship. Those factors are still being investigated.

The captain of the ferry, Captain David Lewry, has confirmed to Judge Arthur d'Hoest, the examining magistrate in charge of the Belgian legal investigation, that he *heard a bang seconds before* the ship went out of control.

The captain was interviewed twice by the judge before returning to England. It was *at the second interview*, conducted last Monday after he had seen lawyers from Townsend Thoresen and Mr Peter Ford, the company's chairman, that he made his first reference to the bang.

Sources close to the Belgian inquiry said yesterday that the captain had been "very reserved" in his declarations to the judge.

A spokesman for the judge said that Townsend Thoresen and British Government officials had guaranteed that Captain Lewry would return to give further evidence if necessary. He was questioned twice in hospital there.

Captain Lewry is now in a private hospital in Canterbury under police guard and is reported to be under mental strain as well as suffering from a lung infection and other injuries.

The judge now has more than 1,000 pages of statements from surviving crew and passengers about the disaster. But he has said he can take no further action until the Nautical Commission produces a full technical report.

Legal sources in Bruges said *yesterday that the inquiry* would inevitably result in someone being charged with involuntary manslaughter. That is demanded by Belgian law

The penalty for such a conviction is three months to a maximum of two years' imprisonment, which could be suspended. A fine could also be imposed of between £50 and £1,000.

Mr Frank van Dycke, one of Belgium's leading shipping experts and an authority on ferry safety, *said his investigations* into earlier disasters suggested Captain Lewry would be blamed. "It would have been better for him if he had gone down with the ship," Mr van Dycke said.

● The body of a rating from the ferry's crew was recovered from the wreck by divers *during the early hours* of yesterday morning, bringing the total number of bodies removed to 54; 48 have been identified. The rating's identity is not being disclosed.

Belgian navy divers had earlier called off the search for bodies on the ground that it had become too hazardous.

Tax amnesty proposed to fight black economy

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

The Government is considering a tax amnesty for people working in the black economy to encourage them to meet their obligations to society, Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Employment, said yesterday.

He said on BBC Radio 4 that he was concerned about people topping up unemployment or supplementary benefit by working for cash and those who might have ended up on the wrong side of the law for not filing a tax return.

One attraction of any amnesty might be its *likely* impact on the jobless total. Lord Young is the chief architect of schemes aimed at cutting unemployment.

The Inland Revenue estimates that the size of the black economy is 6 to 8 per cent of GDP, which suggests the Treasury is losing £4.5 billion to £5 billion a year in taxes.

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US calls for wide Soviet access to Nato bases

From Michael Binyon
Washington

American negotiators yesterday tabled in Geneva the main objectives and elements of the verification of their draft treaty on medium-ange missiles.

The State Department, announcing publication of the details, said the allies were in agreement on wide ranging on-site inspection, giving the Russians unprecedented access to US and Nato bases.

A spokesman for the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency said yesterday that allies were insisting that verification would not lead to "espionage passing as inspection". He said that the Russians would be allowed access to the Greenham Common and Molesworth cruise missile bases in Britain.

The Americans are demanding reciprocal on-site inspection of all Soviet SS-20 missile bases and production facilities.

American spokesmen say that Britain, West Germany, Italy, Belgium and The Netherlands are now in broad agreement on their verification demands.

The extensive US monitoring plan has several key elements. Each side would send inspectors to missile deployment areas and assembly facilities to determine the initial number of medium-range missiles that the other side has. Deployed missiles would have to be kept in designated areas. Inspectors would observe the destruction of missiles to be eliminated.

Each side would install monitoring devices and inspectors outside missile assembly facilities and storage sites. More than 100 inspectors on each side would be based in the other's territory.

On short-range missiles, the US has proposed that it should have the right to match the Soviet force of about 130 SS-12, SS-22 and SS-23 missiles.

The Americans want to create short-range Pershing-1 b missiles by removing a second rocket stage of its 108 medium-range Pershing-2s. But officials say it is unlikely that West Europeans would agree to let Washington convert the Pershing-2s or deploy short-range missiles, because this would amount to another politically controversial round.

The Soviet Union has proposed a freeze on short-range missiles in Europe. The Russians have also suggested that they would withdraw short-range missiles from Eastern Europe.

American officials have suggested that if the negotiations on verification become bogged down, both sides might come under pressure to go for a global zero option, scrapping the remaining 100 warheads that are permitted to remain. This would be much easier to monitor.

Arms debate, page 8

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NEWS SUMMARY

Ruskin College faces inspection

The Government has ordered an inspection of Ruskin College, Oxford, in the wake of the controversy over Mr David Selbourne, the college's former tutor who was censured for writing an article in *The Times* in defiance of a trade union ban.

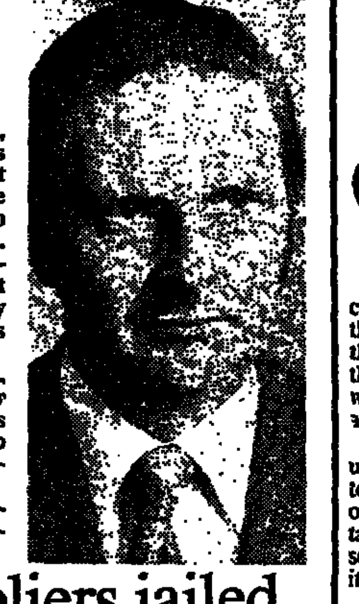
The inspection will be carried out by a team of three whose names will be announced next week by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

A spokesman for the department said last night that the inspection has been ordered under the terms of the Education (Grant) Regulations of 1983. The team's brief would be to "look at Ruskin's procedures for securing academic freedom".

It is a matter that has troubled ministers since last April when students, most of whom are strong trade unionists, boycotted Mr Selbourne's lectures. The Government, which funds the college, believes that the authorities failed to take effective action to prevent the boycott.

Mr Selbourne left Ruskin in October, claiming constructive dismissal on the grounds that the college had criticized him and refused to discipline the students involved.

Timpson to quit



Mr John Timpson, chairman of Radio Four's *Any Questions* for the past three years, is to leave the programme in July. No successor has been chosen.

"I moved back to Norfolk to spend more time at home, but I find I am away now more than I was before", he said.

Mr Timpson, aged 58, retired from the *Today* programme on Christmas Eve but had agreed to continue with *Any Questions* and *Any Answers*.

He will contribute occasional programmes to Radio Four.

Gun suppliers jailed

Two "loyalist" sympathisers were jailed at the Central Criminal Court in London yesterday for their part in an operation to supply guns to extremists in Northern Ireland. The guns were bought by the Scottish Protestants from profits from big heroin deals, probably to disrupt the Anglo-Irish Agreement, the court was told.

James Norwood, aged 38, of Morning Lane, Hackney, east London, was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for possessing firearms and ammunition with intent to endanger life, and also having heroin worth £20,000 with intent to supply.

David Percy, aged 37, a flute player in a Scots Orange Lodge band, of McNab Street, Shettleston, Glasgow, was jailed for four years for possessing firearms.

Marquess settles

The Marquess of Bath has settled his High Court action in which he claimed that a poorly designed alarm system enabled burglars to break into Longleat House and steal a snuff box collection worth £91,000.

The marquess and Chubb Alarms Ltd reached an "amicable" agreement and the firm will continue to service the system at Longleat, Wiltshire.

Farewell auction

Thousands of farmers, three times as many as expected, travelled from all over the country yesterday to an auction at Ted Moult's 260-acre Scaddows Farm, Ticknall, Derbyshire.

Mr Moult, star of *The Archers, What's My Line*, and other television and radio programmes, was found shot dead at his farm last September.

Labour to double industry research bill

By Sheila Gunn
Political Staff

A future Labour government will pledge to double industry's spending on civil research and development from £3 billion to £6 billion a year within four years.

It would offer tax incentives to firms carrying out research into new products and techniques and order them to declare R&D spending in annual reports.

A draft White Paper spelling out Labour's plans for reversing the decline in R&D will be unveiled later this month. It will state, with costings, how a Labour government will achieve its promises over four years.

It is expected to back many of the incentives called for by *The Times* and the recent House of Lords' report on science and technology to save Britain's science base and so improve industry's chances of competing internationally.

Dr Jeremy Bray, Labour spokesman on science and technology, presents the White Paper at a seminar by *Nature* magazine in London on March 26 — two days after Labour launches its three-part national programme for economic recovery.

It is designed to embarrass *Mrs Margaret Thatcher* and her ministers by asserting that the "free market forces" ideology and lack of spending on R&D has left Britain technologically trailing.

Dr Bray said: "Our plan is not to take money out of industry for spending on R&D but to re-distribute it through incentive schemes and grants. This will be in line with the practice followed by most of our industrial competitors."

Labour's consultative document — the basis of the draft White Paper — concluded that the technological competitiveness of the economy was linked to unemployment.

"An increase of £3 billion a year in civil R&D in industry is needed to match our competitors. To gain the benefit of that in jobs requires an increase of £15 billion in fixed investment and a further £15 billion in start up costs. These are achievable levels over a period of years. This should generate over two million jobs and secure the balance of payments."

To achieve that Labour plans to:

- Recycle corporation tax as a general incentive grant for encourage R&D spending;
- Mount a big information technology programme;
- Insist on more cost-effective spending on defence R&D;
- Increase the science budget by £400 million to secure the science base;
- Increase government civil R&D by £200 million on environmental, energy and industry support programmes.

Leading article, page 19

About-turn by BBC on Profumo documentary

By Jonathan Miller, Media Correspondent

The BBC has abruptly cancelled a documentary about the 1963 Profumo affair, less than a month after defending the programme as a serious work of investigative journalism.

The film, which was scheduled for showing in June, was to allege that MI5 "set up" the osteopath Stephen Ward to take the responsibility for the scandal as a way of protecting itself from embarrassment.

Last month, Mr Bill Cotton, managing director of BBC Television, wrote in a letter to *The Times* that the film was to be "a serious examination by serious journalists of a possible miscarriage of justice".

Yesterday, BBC officials said that the programme would not go ahead because of a finding that there was not enough fresh evidence to justify the expense of production.

The BBC expects criticism that the film was cancelled as part of a policy of caution introduced by Mr Michael Checkland, the new Director-General.

But corporation sources insisted the decision had nothing to do with Mr Checkland, and had been taken by Mr George Carey, who is assistant head of documentary features and was executive producer of the film, after consultation with Mr David Wickham, the film's producer.

Mr Carey said yesterday that he took his decision because research had failed to turn up new evidence that Mr Ward had been framed.

"There was not enough there to make a film. Mr Checkland had absolutely no part in the decision", Mr Carey said.

Lord Wyatt of Weeford, who had strongly criticized the BBC's plan to make the film, said he was pleased to hear of the decision to cancel.

"It would have been impossible to make such a film without dragging out the whole Profumo thing again. It looks as though a more balanced approach is beginning to prevail at the BBC", he said.

The allegations in the film were expected to confront the Government with new questions about the ethics and competence of MI5 at a time when ministers have been fighting legal battles to protect the security service from public scrutiny.

The documentary was to be based on *An Affair of State*, a book by Philip Knightley and Caroline Kennedy, to be published by Jonathan Cape in June. The book is claimed to present a fresh examination of the scandal which led to the resignation of Mr Profumo from the Government, the conviction of Mr Ward for living on immoral earnings, and his subsequent suicide. Excerpts have been purchased by *The Sunday Times*.

The disclosures in the book are considered so controversial that Jonathan Cape and *The Sunday Times* intend to delay publication if there is a general election campaign under way.

Mr Andrew Neil, editor of *The Sunday Times*, described the book yesterday as "highly political", and "the most important book about the Profumo affair".

Liberal hopes high in Truro

Mr Matthew Taylor, the Liberal Alliance candidate, and his girlfriend, Miss Philippa Thomas, campaigning at St Stephen, near St Austell, Cornwall, yesterday as voters went to the polls in the Truro by-election (Our Political Correspondent writes).

Last night all the signs pointed to victory for Mr Taylor but electors will have to wait until lunchtime today before learning who is their new MP.

Victory will make Mr Taylor, aged 24, the youngest MP in the House of Commons. He is defending a 10,500 majority established by Mr David Penhaligon, who was killed in a car crash last December.

Fine weather and a predicted high turnout boosted Liberal confidence

After touring polling stations and party committee rooms, Mr Taylor said: "We will win with a big majority. But we are making sure supporters actually put their votes in the boxes. There is a slight inclination among Liberals to think it's in the bag already."

Voting boxes from the 75 villages and towns in the sprawling rural seat were being guarded overnight at Truro City Hall before counting starts at 9am.

Scargill challenge to six-day week

By Peter Davenport

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, yesterday called on miners to resist attempts by British Coal to introduce six-day working.

His comments came after a six-hour meeting of the union's national executive committee in Sheffield, which discussed the decision by miners in South Wales to accept in principle the longer working week at a proposed new pit.

The executive yesterday unanimously accepted a resolution proposed by Mr Scargill to call a special delegate conference of the union to formulate a policy on the coal board proposals.

The move was interpreted as an attempt by Mr Scargill to prevent further damaging divisions within the union over the issue.

He said: "Collectively we can resist the board's attempts to erode the hard won gains our members have enjoyed for a number of years".

British Coal said it would go ahead with a £90 million new pit at Margam in South Wales, an area of high unemployment, only if six-day working was agreed.

Mr Scargill is firmly opposed to any moves that will end the five-day week.

But Mr Trevor Bell, the leader of the white collar section of the union, Cosa, said yesterday: "I am not prepared to vote for anybody working six days a week all year round but that is not what is on offer. They are offering three weeks working six days and a fourth week off."

Mr Scargill is angry because British Coal has been talking directly to local area unions.

● The Union of Democratic Mineworkers, formed by Nottinghamshire's 32,000 working pitmen after the year-long dispute, held their first national ballot yesterday.

Members were urged to reject the wages and conditions offered because they contain a no-strike clause.

Move to boost victims' pay-out

By Richard Evans
Political Correspondent

Britain's shipping companies could soon be forced to make increased compensation payments to relatives of the victims of sea disasters in the wake of the Zeebrugge ferry sinking.

Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, and ministerial colleagues are expected to discuss the possibility of raising the maximum payment of £38,175.

The Athens Convention, an international agreement covering compensation rights which Britain ratified in 1980, comes into force next month. Two orders will shortly be placed before the Commons to activate the convention. Its terms were drawn up in 1974 and have applied under British law since 1978.

In spite of expected opposition from shipping firms, ministers are considering the possibility of Britain going it alone and raising the maximum compensation level.

Government ministers are preparing for increasing criticism of the Pilotage Bill which aims to cut the number of pilots used to help to guide shipping into Britain's busy ports and harbours.

A large decrease in shipping traffic in recent years means there is not enough work for Britain's 1,300 pilots, but their number can only be reduced by legislation.

Critics of the Bill have said safety could be put at risk. Ministers have now decided that detailed consideration of the legislation should take place in the Commons in an attempt to reassure the public.

● Mr Moore said last night that he had "no reason to doubt" that all the chemicals aboard the Herald of Free Enterprise at the time of her loss were being carried in full compliance with international and national regulations.

Five for trial on museum raid charges

Five men accused in connection with an armed raid on the Sir John Soane Museum in Lincoln's Inn Fields, Holborn, central London, were committed in custody by Lambeth magistrates yesterday for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

The elder brother of one of the accused was shot dead by police during a robbery attempt at the museum.

The five men are accused of conspiracy to rob.

George Bergin, aged 23, of Albany Road, Ealing; Michael Lyons, aged 26, of Hobbayne Road, Hanwell; Dereck Smith, aged 22, of Gainsborough Towers, Northolt; Lee Frailing, aged 22, of Haydock Avenue, Northolt; and William McSkimming, aged 27, of Uxbridge Road, Acton, all west London, were also accused of having a sawn-off shotgun on February 6 with intent to commit robbery.

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Sizewell will offer job security to thousands

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Sizewell decision announced yesterday by the Government could be interpreted equally as a decision on energy policy or as part of its job creation policy.

The power station will be built on the Suffolk coast, but the effects will be felt in areas such as the North-east and the West of Scotland which have suffered from a lack of heavy engineering projects and orders.

For companies such as Babcock Power, which will make the steam pipes and the generator equipment, the decision could lead to orders worth £10 billion.

While the number of jobs created will be substantial it will be the security that related orders will bring which will be welcomed in the works at Renfrew. A thousand jobs will be created and 400 jobs under threat will be saved.

In total the Sizewell project will create about 10,000 jobs during the seven years it is under construction, 4,000 of them in the civil engineering industry.

Jobs will also be saved in the United States and in France. Westinghouse in the US has not had a pressurized water-cooled reactor order since 1978, and Fromatom, which will build the pressure vessel in France, is near the end of its contract for the 34 French PWRs.

Apart from the hardware orders being negotiated the Central Electricity Generating Board will announce the basic civil engineering contracts, worth £120 million, within weeks.

However, it is the orders that follow which will be more important to British industry. Those who are succesful will be well-placed to bid for similar contracts for the family of up to five stations which will be built.

Parliament, page 4

Officer challenges RUC chief's gag

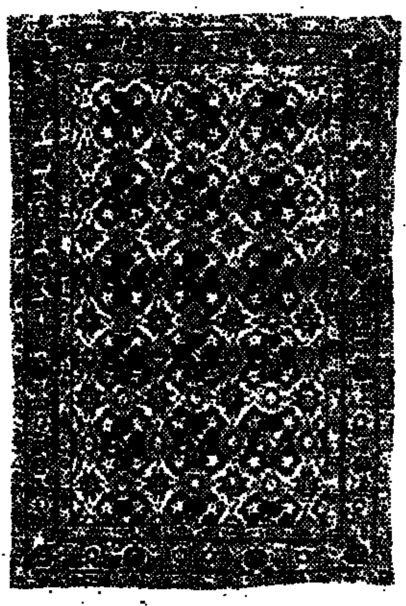
A chief constable who tried to prevent a Police Federation chairman speaking to the media is to be challenged in the Ulster High Court.

PC Alan Wright, the federation's Northern Ireland chairman, was yesterday given leave to apply for judicial review of the ban imposed by Sir John Hermon, Chief Constable of the RUC.

Mr Wright gave interviews last year after Sir John Hermon had forbidden him to do so without first seeking permission. Charges were later brought against the constable under police disciplinary regulations.

Mr Wright had upset the Chief Constable by arguing publicly that border security was properly the job of the Army rather than a civilian police force.

It is the second time this week that the Chief Constable has been at the centre of proceedings. On Monday, it was announced that the Northern Ireland Police Authority was to pay over £246,000 compensation to 30 former women members of the RUC Reserve and one member still serving, for unlawful sexual discrimination.



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Exacting pressure by creditors together with heavy financial costs, in servicing short term loans has made this a sale of necessity and instructions have been issued to dispose of the entire inventory piece by piece to the highest bidder at a

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Mafia drug squad 'regrouping' after heroin convictions

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Customs investigators believe that the Sicilian Mafia has already appointed replacements in London for members of the drug-trafficking ring jailed this week in the largest trial of heroin dealers yet held in Britain.

Investigators have identified a number of suspects with Italian backgrounds who may have stepped in to replace Francesco Di Carlo, the organizer of the Mafia's drugs operations in Britain who was jailed for 25 years.

It is known that the Mafia's operations have not been ended by the arrests. Two of Di Carlo's men were arrested for cannabis smuggling in 1984 but he and the rest of his group were ordered to continue smuggling drugs.

The Mafia is thought to dominate the cocaine market in London. It handles the drug in weights of 10 kilos at a time. Two members of the ring were linked by investigators with a 47-kilo cargo of cociane found on a ship in Hamburg in 1984.

One of Di Carlo's aides, Filippo Monteleone, who was also jailed for 25 years this week, kept scales which showed traces of cocaine.

Yesterday, in the wake of the trial, armed police continued to protect Judge Hazan, QC. Protection has also been offered to members of the jury who were given escorts during the three-and-a-half month case but, for legal reasons, were never told that the defendents were suspected Mafia figures

Di Carlo is also facing trial in absentia in the huge Mafia "cage trial" in Palermo. The Italians tried to extradite him after his arrest in England but failed. The process began with an application to the extradition squad at Scotland Yard in April 1985 when Customs officers were still three months away from arresting him.

Had police found Di Carlo, who was living under his own name in Woking, they would have halted an operation which later netted 60 kilos of heroin.

When Di Carlo was arrested by Customs officers they had difficulty holding him on the available evidence and turned keep him in custody.

The Customs team which investigated Di Carlo and his three aides is continuing to work on Mafia investigations. Italian and Canadian police are also investigating the money laundering operation which Di Carlo ran with other Sicilians living in Britain, including Alfonso and Pasquale Caruana, who are now fugitives.

Di Carlo is believed to have handled sums of £500,000 at a time in his work with the Mafia network which extended from Britain into East Africa. Money stored in this country was moved abroad while Di Carlo awaited trial.

Alfonso Caruana, who lived at a £450,000 house at Godalming, Surrey, before fleeing, had one account in Canada which handled about £16.5 million in three years. He and his brother are believed to have had an account with the Trustee Savings Bank in Britain for £1 million.

Pasquale Caruana is thought to be in Canada. Alfonso Caruana fled to Venezuela where the Caruana family has considerable financial and political power.

World of 'Woking Mafiosi'

The fierce barking of German Shepherd dogs running loose in an English garden is still the abiding impression the neighbours of the "Woking Mafiosi" have of the Sicilian drug runners jailed at the Central Criminal Court.

The quiet invasion of a world of rhododendrons and gravel drives by sleek, dark-suited men with expensive sports cars and an obsessive taste for privacy still wrankles with the well-to-do people who did their British best to welcome the newcomers.

In the cheaper housing on the outskirts of Woking, the 1,500-strong community of mainly Scicilian Italians who moved to work on Surrey farms after the Second World War, display a mixture of ignorance and dismissal of the presence of such elevated "Dons" in their neighbourhood.

They fear the inevitable repercussions of being Italian at the wrong place at the wrong time: "If some English person says to an Italian boy 'You come from Sicily, you are Mafia' there could be a fight", Father Silvano, a local priest, said.

"In fact, you are talking about two separate worlds. The Sicilians in Woking are from the country. A tiny handful who were prisoners-of-war on farms here were the first, but most came to Britain in the 1940s to work the land here under contract to farmers in the area.

"These Mafia figures are from Palermo. The Woking Italians don't know anything about them. They are said to be linked with them, but Francesco Di Carlo stayed away from them.

Woking police do not believe there is still a Mafia presence in the town. Those local Italians willing to speak to journalists portray a community still working in small factories and supplementing their wages by performing gardening and landscape duties.

There were at least five underworld figures operating in Woking until Di Carlo was picked up almost two years ago. The Caruano brothers, Alfonso and Pasquale, each had opulent lifestyles. Alfonso lived in Godalming in a £450,000 mansion, and Pasquale lived at The Hook in a favoured suburb.

Two others, including Francesco Siracusa, lived in more modest circumstances, renting a house from a British diplomat in Westfield Road. Di Carlo moved to the rather unprepossessing Brackendene House in Woking and brought in his wife and children.

Within weeks he had put up tall fences around the garden, planted screens of trees and had installed Bella and Romulus, the two Alsatians, to guard him and his drugs operation. One of the dogs is still barking freely at the back of the house, presumably fed by the remaining members of the Di Carlo family who refuse to speak to the press.

Doctor accused of spanking patients

A family doctor allegedly spanked women patients after telling them it was part of their treatment, it was claimed yesterday.

Dr Kenneth Hines, who is now appearing before the professional conduct committee of the General Medical Council, allegedly told his patients the spankings would help them with emotional problems.

Mrs C, who consulted the doctor, told a hearing of the committee in London: "Dr. Hines suggested that, in order to cure me of my guilt he should smack my bottom.

"It came down to the fact that I was being punished and it should take the form of smacking by him in the eyes of God."

Mrs A told the hearing she went to Dr Hines when her religious beliefs caused a moral dilemma over her boyfriend.

She said the doctor devised a punishment scale for her — a smack on the hand for petting, a smack on the backside for heavy petting and spanking on her bare bottom for having sexual intercourse.

"He kept bringing religious comments into it", she said.

Dr Hines told his patients that they would have to go through the process of guilt, God and punishment, followed by forgiveness, to get rid of their emotional problems.

Dr Hines, who is alleged to have spanked patients at a surgery in Glebelands Avenue, South Woodford, east London, was said to have explained the philosophy behind his "treatment" to a colleague, Dr Christopher Whitfield.

Dr Whitfield told the hearing that Dr Hines had told him he felt his therapy worked and was justified.

He said Dr Hines had quoted a passage from St Paul to the Hebrews about chastisement.

Dr Hines, aged 42, of Eastwood Road, South Woodford, denies gross professional misconduct by improperly interfering with certain female patients by advocating physical punishment. He is also accused of interfering in the specialist care of a patient's son.

Dr Hines, who now runs his own surgery with 2,500 patients, denied there was any intention to inflict physical punishment in his therapy. He said it was based on pastoral theology and his religious morals.

He also said it was successful.

The hearing continues today.

Inquiry on medical complaints

By Jill Sherman
Social Services Correspondent

The Government has launched a review of the disciplinary procedures affecting senior hospital doctors and dentists.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, said the simplest case could take more than a year and in some cases doctors are suspended for five years or more.

The health department is setting up a working party with the British Medical Association and senior representatives from regional health authorities which will be asked to complete the review by the end of the year.

Mr Fowler said: "Although the number of cases involved are few, they raise serious issues for the individuals and for the service. Delays in handling cases at local level and on appeal have become unacceptable."

Disciplinary proceedings now involve an investigating panel.

The panel reports to the health authority which then decides what action to take. If there is an appeal, the Secretary of State appoints a professional committee.

Surrogate mother's letter

'I love these babies of mine'

The surrogate mother who was yesterday granted custody of twins she was paid to bear for a childless couple, wrote the following letter to Mr B, the father.

Described by the judge as "a perfectly frank and sincere exposition of the thoughts and feelings" of the mother, it was written a month after the twins were born.

It said: "I am very depressed about the situation I am in. If I could have seen these things happening before the insemination then I might very well have changed my mind, not that I regret having my babies, because I do not.

"I have my Mum saying 'you have made a bargain, you keep to it, the babies have to go to their Dad.'

"I have you (Mr B) wanting the babies as soon as possible. I have your wife saying do I know the pain and suffering you two have been through.

"I have your sister asking me very nicely if I can part with the babies and I have your sister-in-law telling me what to let you do with the babies.

"Just think of all these people having a go at me and I have not even got over having the babies. I sit and wonder whether any of you have really thought how I feel.

"I know I cannot take much more of these questions and answers.

"Yes, I thought at the beginning things would be easy for me. I made myself pregnant and gave birth to the babies and saw them first. I love these babies of mine like no other person could ever do. The babies are as much mine as yours. Please try to see how I feel. I did not want things to be like this for any of us.

"I wish I did not have to give you the babies, but because I love the babies as much as I do I will give you them. Then I will know in my own mind that I have done the best for my children. I love them and will carry on loving them.

"Knowing that you have said I can see the babies after the adoption makes things a little easier for me.

"Also because I love you so much it makes it all a little easier. I would hate myself if I ever hurt you. I never intended to do that, as much as I never wanted to hurt myself.

"The pain of parting with the babies is with me now and I know I will be broken-hearted when they go. But, I made an agreement with you which I will keep, knowing you will look after them well

"What I ask you to remember is that I am still a loving and caring person who needs to be loved.

"I have so much love to give but I never get anything in return but hurt."

The letter ended with an appeal to Mr B to let her know if anything changed in his life.

She wrote: "I need to know I will get the babies back. If they are not with you I need to know that they will be with me."

Mr Osborne at work, with Sir Kenneth (left) and Sgt Porter (Photograph: John Rogers).

Trooping star to be cast in bronze

By Gavin Bell
Arts Correspondent

The Queen's horse Burmese, known as the equestrian star of the Trooping the Colour displayed exemplary parade-ground discipline yesterday for the sake of art and the St John Ambulance Brigade.

Flanked by Sir Kenneth Newman, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, and Sergeant Robin Porter, who rides her on duty, she was being sketched at Rochester Row stables by Mr James Osborne, the sculptor, who has been commissioned to produce three large bronzes of one of Britain's best-loved horses, in aid of the brigade's centenary appeal fund.

One will be presented to the Queen, another will be sold at auction and a third will go to a businessman who is sponsoring the work. Each of the statues will be about two metres high on a plinth.

The jet-black mare was presented to the Queen by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in 1969. Her impeccable self-control was displayed in 1981 when a youth fired a starting pistol at the Trooping procession.

She recently retired from the Royal Household. Although aged 25, she continues to patrol the streets of Pimlico, central London. When Burmese was retired the Queen decided that in future she will drive to the ceremony.

Crisis over new exam in schools says union

By John Clare
Education Correspondent

The introduction of the new 16-plus exam, the GCSE, has turned out to be "little more than a desperate effort to cope with a crisis", according to a teaching union's survey.

The survey, by the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, is based on the responses of nearly three quarters of the local education authorities in England and Wales, and more than 450 individual teachers.

The findings suggest that most of the 600,000 14-year-olds who embarked on the two-year course last September are getting a raw deal. They do not have enough textbooks or equipment and their teachers are still unprepared. Many teachers admit that they cannot cope.

It is the replacement of examinations in whole or in part with the continuous assessment of pupils' coursework that causes teachers the greatest difficulties.

They say the criteria are so vague that it is hard to reach any agreement among themselves about how pupils' work should be marked. They also complain that they do not have enough time to check and record everything that is required.

An English teacher in Cleveland said: "The volume of extra work and the insecurity of being unprepared renders teaching insupportable . . . I am applying for posts outside the profession".

A biology teacher on Humberside said: "My feelings, and those of my department, can be summed up as frustration".

A history teacher in Mid Glamorgan said: "£200 has been provided for 70 pupils and this is insufficient to buy textbooks".

Art and design and technology teachers complained that classes were too large to carry out all the assessments.

Mathematics and science teachers' comments were the most specific: "An extra two hours per week per teacher is required; two extra teachers required; 15 days extra is needed to cover the practical sessions; the department needs another £9,000.

Only six out of 71 local authorities had employed any extra teachers in time for the first year of GCSE.

Immigration shake-up aims at independence

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Lord Chancellor is to take over responsibility for running the immigration appeals system from the Home Office on April 1.

There has been criticism for many years that the two-tier immigration appeals system is not seen to be sufficiently independent of the Home Office which has responsibility for immigration control.

The Home Office, for its part, has found it a difficult balancing act to discharge both functions in a way which is seen to preserve the independence of the appeals system.

In particular the present arrangements have been criticized by the Commission for Racial Equality, by the Home Affairs committee in a report in 1985, and most recently by the Council on Tribunals.

The Lord Chancellor already appoints members to the upper tier of the system, the Immigration Appeal Tribunal, and the Government has now decided he should take over responsibility for appointing the adjudicators who sit on appeals in the first instance.

The change is purely organizational and will not affect people's rights of appeal against decisions by immigration officers.

Male GP dismissed by girls school gets £8,000

A GP who was dismissed by a girls public school last December was awarded £8,000 compensation, the maximum award, by a tribunal at Hereford yesterday.

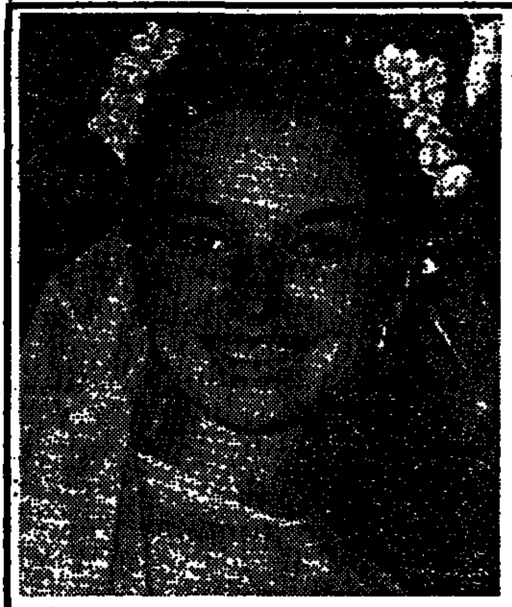
Dr Ralph Holman, aged 52, lost his post as school doctor after seven years when the governors of Malvern Girls College, Hereford and Worcester, decided a female doctor would be better equipped to advise girls on moral issues and contraception, Aids and relationships with boys.

The tribunal chairman, Mr David Powell, ruled that he was the victim of unlawful sex discrimination. He said that there was no proof women were better qualified than men to administer moral advice to girls, and he was not prepared to accept "sexist assumptions".

"Being a woman is not a general occupational qualification for being a doctor at a girls school", he said.

Afterwards the British Medical Association said: "The result will establish that employers cannot discriminate between male or female doctors in any area of the medical profession and we think that's vitally important".

The tribunal had been told that the governors decided to employ a woman doctor after increasing pressure from staff, pupils and parents.



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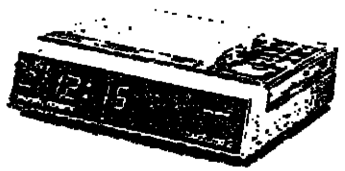

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		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
18-29	18-33	22548	33631	39358	58704	56168	83776	72978	113665
30	34	22047	33070	38483	57725	54820	82380	71357	111689
31	35	20887	31496	36458	54976	52029	78457	67601	106150
32	36	19453	29180	33956	50934	49459	72688	62862	94443
33	37	18038	27181	31486	47445	44935	67710	58383	87974
34	38	16335	24803	28863	43294	41190	61785	53517	80276
35	39	15283	22807	26642	39810	38022	56814	49401	73817
36	40	13779	20689	24052	36078	34325	51488	44598	65897
37	41	12638	18897	22061	32986	31483	47074	40905	61163
38	42	11404	17105	19905	29858	28407	42610	36909	55363
39	43	10175	15253	17782	26642	25348	38022	32934	49401
40	44	9144	13684	15961	23886	22778	34088	29595	44290
41	45	8268	12401	14431	21647	20585	30893	26759	40138
42	46	7404	11085	12924	19349	18443	27613	23963	35878
43	47	6658	9971	11623	17405	16587	24838	21551	32272
44	48	5959	8938	10401	15601	14843	22265	19286	28938
45	49	5363	8033	9361	14022	13359	20011	17357	26000
46	50	4840	7268	8448	12687	12056	18105	15664	23524
47	51	4371	6549	7629	11431	10887	16313	14146	21195
48	52	3946	5923	6886	10339	9827	14755	12768	19170
49	53	3550	5330	6196	9286	8842	13251	11489	17217
50	54	3206	4804	5595	8386	7986	11968	10375	15550
51	–	2892	4342	5049	7579	7205	10816	9362	14053
52	–	2611	3914	4557	6831	6504	9749	8450	12667
53	–	2357	3537	4113	6174	5870	8811	7627	11448
54	–	2136	3206	3728	5595	5321	7985	6913	10375

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If you would like a copy of your completed proposal please ask us.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) ____ BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE
Forenames (in full) ____
Address ____
____ Postcode ____
Date of Birth ____/____/____ Marital Status ____
Doctor's Name and Address ____
Broker/Agent (if any) ____

Answer 'YES' or 'NO' to each question opposite. If you are aged under 55 and can truthfully answer 'NO' to the 4 questions you will normally be accepted with no further questions or medical examination.

	YES†	NO
1. Have you attended or have you been advised to attend, for treatment or for tests at any hospital, clinic or surgery within the last five years?	☐	☐
2. Have you received, or have you any reason for expecting to receive, medical advice, treatment or tests, including blood tests, in connection with any serious viral disease (such as Glandular Fever, Hepatitis, AIDS or related conditions)?	☐	☐
3. Have you, within the last year, applied to any other company for life assurance or ever had any application postponed, declined or accepted on special terms?	☐	☐
4. Do you participate in any hazardous activity or occupation?	☐	☐

†If you have answered 'YES' to any of the above questions please give details on a separate sheet of paper. You may still be accepted.

5. How many cigarettes do you smoke each day? ____
If your answer to this question is 'None' please consider the following declaration.

NON-SMOKER DECLARATION I declare that I have smoked NO cigarettes in the past 12 months and that I have no intention of smoking cigarettes in the future.
Signed ____ Date ____
As a pipe or cigar smoker, you can qualify as a non-smoker for this purpose, if you can truthfully sign the non-smoking declaration above

DECLARATION I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that the statements made in, or in connection with this proposal to Phoenix Assurance plc (a member of the Sun Alliance Group) are true and complete and that I have not withheld any material facts. I consent to the Company seeking medical information from any doctor who at any time has attended me concerning anything which affects my physical or mental health or seeking information from any insurance office to which a proposal has been made for insurance on my life and I authorise the giving of such information.

Signature ____
Date ____ 19__ Tick here if you require another copy of this application form for your partner. ☐ 544R

This policy will be issued by Phoenix Assurance plc (a member of the Sun Alliance Group) Bartholomew Lane, London EC2N 2AB. Reg. in England 71965. This is based on the Company's understanding of the current law and Inland Revenue practice. Available only to persons residing in the United Kingdom

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Security checks after raid

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, reassured the Commons that measures were being taken to improve security after a raid on the local Ulster Defence Regiment headquarters at Coleraine.

Four men had been charged with serious offences, two of whom were part-time members of the UDR.

The Ministry of Defence had convened its own internal board of inquiry and the findings were being studied.

A review of security at all (UDR) bases and establishments was being carried out and the Ministry of Defence has put into effect measures to improve security at Coleraine.

Mr Patrick Duffy (Sheffield, Attercliffe, Lab) asked what reassurances the minister could envisage offering when a "loyalist" gang could get into a barracks, round up an entire arsenal and load it into a UDR vehicle — and would have got away but for the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Mr King: I take an extremely serious view of this incident.

Whistling in the dark

When a senior Labour MP, to roars of laughter from the Conservatives and encouraging noises from his colleagues, predicted the Prime Minister's imminent defeat in a general election, Mrs Thatcher said that she would not deny him the pleasure of whistling in the dark.

Mr Jack Dormand (Easington, Lab), chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, said: In the little time she has before her defeat at the next general election, will she say what she will do to repair the damage to personal freedom, to reverse the trend towards centralization of power, and restore some regard for truth in public affairs?

Mrs Thatcher: I will not deny him the pleasure of whistling in the dark (laughter). May I point out the steps which this Government has taken to enlarge freedom by the number of controls which it has removed?

Dispute 'is unjustified'

The latest disruption in schools caused by teachers taking industrial action was totally unjustified, Mrs Thatcher said during Prime Minister's question time in the Commons.

It was appalling that some teachers pursued their own interests by damaging the education of children in their care, she said in reply to Mr Patrick McLoughlin (West Derbyshire, C), who thought it as strange that teachers, having taken industrial action to secure a pay rise and now having been awarded a pay rise, were taking action again.

Cash dues for shipping

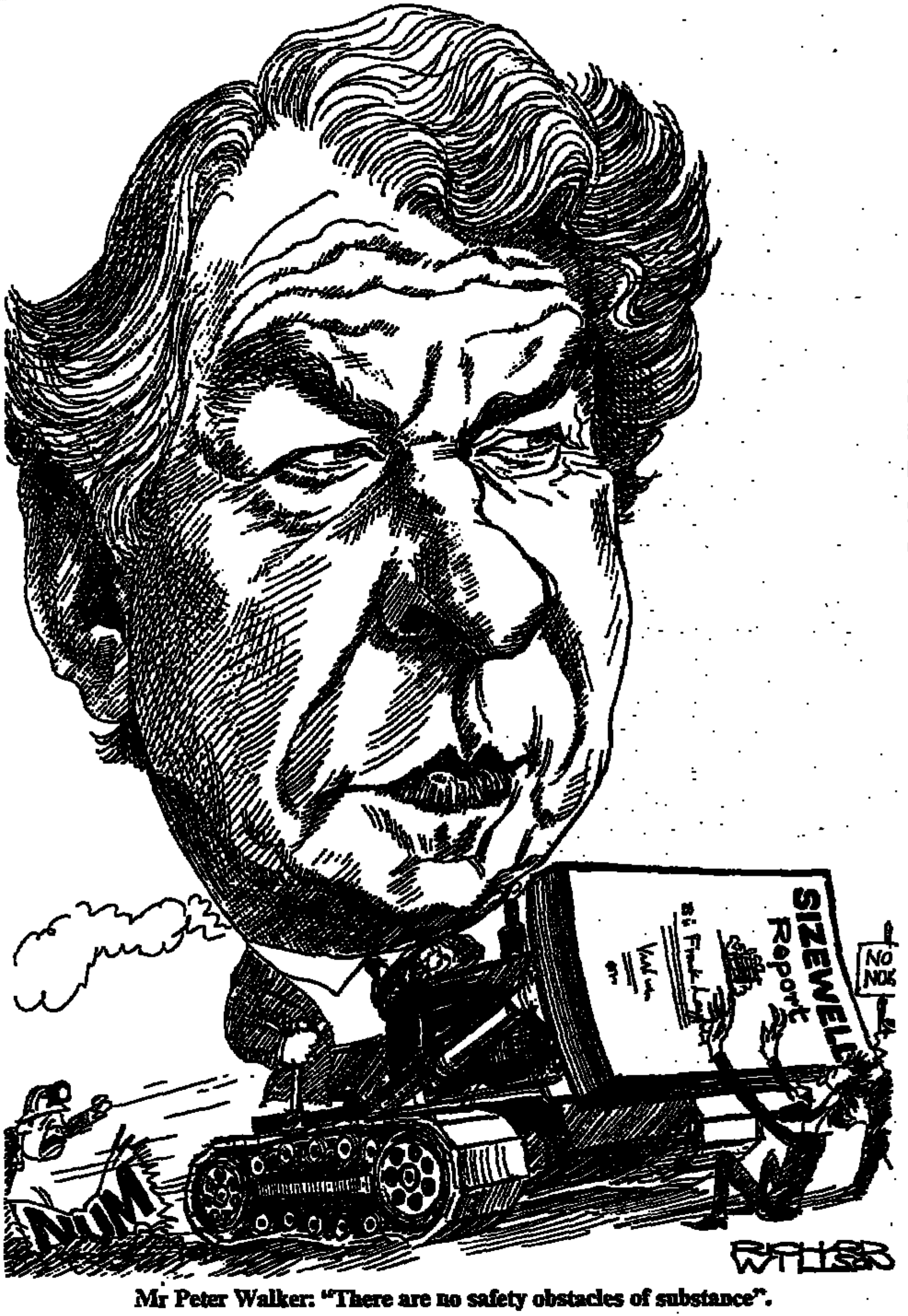
Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, announced in a written reply details of the extension of light dues to the larger fishing vessels that comprise 40 per cent of the British fleet, and to larger foreign fishing vessels using British ports.

The dues, which are intended to meet the cost of lighthouses and other navigational aids, will be levied on all vessels of 10 metres registered length and more at £200 plus £20 for each metre in excess of 10 metres. It should contribute about £1 million a year to the General Lighthouse Fund.

Share owners

Figures for the number of shareholders are not kept, but it was generally accepted that the number had trebled since 1979, Mr Michael Howard, Under-Secretary of State, Trade and Industry, said.

Walker approves Sizewell B



Mr Peter Walker: "There are no safety obstacles of substance".

In his statement announcing approval for the Sizewell B nuclear power station in Suffolk, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, told MPs that there were "no safety obstacles of substance" to prevent the licensing of the station in the next couple of months.

He had been told that by the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate, and he was "fully confident" that the NII will continue to satisfy itself on safety throughout Sizewell B's building and existence.

Mr Walker said: I have reached a decision on the application by the Central Electricity Generating Board to construct a nuclear power station using a pressurized water reactor: the Sizewell B station in Suffolk.

The CEGB's application has been the subject of the most wide-ranging and longest public inquiry carried out in this country. When Sir Frank Layfield's report was debated the thoroughness of his work was generally acknowledged.

MPs would be familiar with his conclusion that there is a national interest in building a PWR and that this can best be met at Sizewell. He found that a new power station is required to meet anticipated need; that it should be approved in the near future; and that the proposed PWR is likely to be the least cost means of adding that capacity. The inspector further concluded that there is good confidence that Sizewell B was sufficiently safe to be tolerable and that the national need for the station overrides the local interest in favour of conservation.

Sir Frank therefore recommended that consent and deemed planning permission should be given for the station, but should be refused for the second access road. He also made a number of detailed subsidiary recommendations.

The inspector closed the inquiry in March 1975 and properly reported only on the evidence he had received before then. In reaching my decision, however, I must consider whether anything has occurred since that date which is material to my decision and, if so, what weight I should give to any such matters.

I have, in particular, considered the relevance of Chernobyl to the safety of the proposed station. I have also taken into account recent changes in electricity demand and fossil fuel prices.

First, in relation to the Chernobyl accident, the chief inspector of nuclear installations has advised me that the PWR design for Sizewell B is of a different reactor type from the Soviet RBMK design.

All nuclear powers stations in the UK, unlike those in the USSR, must have engineered control and automatic protection systems. Moreover, our system of regulation, unlike that which is applied in the USSR, ensures that there is a proper and reliable procedural framework of controls. All our experience in the UK has demonstrated that there is a superior safety culture to that which apparently existed at Chernobyl and which allowed the repeated deliberate non-compliance with safety procedures.

The chief inspector of nuclear installations therefore advises me that the Chernobyl accident does not call for any reconsideration of the conclusions or recommendations of the Layfield report. I agree with his advice.

In his report, Sir Frank Layfield also discusses emergency plans in the event of a nuclear accident. The Prime Minister announced on December 18 that the Government was undertaking a review, in the light of our experience of the Chernobyl accident, of the UK's emergency plans and procedures in the event of a nuclear accident either in the UK or abroad.

The conclusion of the first stage of the review was that, while planning needs to provide more specifically for an accident outside the UK, existing emergency plans continue to provide a valid basis for the response to any nuclear accident in the UK.

Turning to the economic case, I have noted that since the inquiry closed economic activity has risen with associated growth in demand for electricity. Sizewell B, even if it started now, is unlikely to be ready ahead of need.

On the other hand, fossil fuel prices have fallen since 1985. Projecting these forward to the end of the century and beyond is subject to great uncertainty. I have, however, examined the inspector's economic case against a range of coal prices considerably lower than those discussed in the report.

Even against this lower range, I have concluded that Sizewell B remains the cheapest option for meeting the anticipated need for new capacity. I have also concluded, as did the inspector, that the development of a further nuclear station would be a valuable step in achieving greater fuel diversity in our generating system.

In view of the inspector's conclusions and recommendations, together with my own consideration of the issues, I agree with his conclusions that Sizewell B is acceptably safe and would meet a national need by providing new capacity at least cost. This outweighs any disadvantage from disturbance to the locality.

I have therefore decided to give my consent to the CEGB's application to construct the Sizewell B power station, together with deemed planning permission and the necessary investment approval.

In order to minimize disturbance to the locality, I have decided that this should be subject to the detailed local planning conditions proposed by the inspector and should exclude the CEGB's proposal for a new access road, consent for which is refused.

In my decision letter, which sets out my detailed response, I also accept the substance of the inspector's other recommendations. A number of these recommendations will now need to be actively followed up outside Government.

In particular, I can say that I agree with the inspector that a study of alternatives to the B1122 for heavy traffic should be made and am commending this to the Suffolk County Council.

Sir Frank also helpfully made a number of observations and informal proposals for further action which he considered desirable. I am not required to reach a conclusion on these for the purposes of my consent. I have, however, examined them carefully and, where appropriate, they will be further considered by the Government.

In reaching my decision I have considered most carefully Sir Frank's comments on safety. I should make it clear that, as a separate process, under a different statute, the CEGB also require a licence from the independent Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII) as well as my consent before they can start construction.

The Chief Inspector of Nuclear Installations informs me that the NII judge that there are now no safety obstacles of substance which would prevent the licensing of Sizewell B in the next couple of months.

He has assured me that the NII will consider carefully Sir Frank Layfield's comments and proposals on the safety of the reactor before issuing a licence. Sir Frank commented that both the CEGB and the NII possessed impressive technical competence and engineering judgement of a high quality.

I am fully confident that the NII will continue to satisfy itself about the safety of the station throughout the rest of its design, construction, operation and decommissioning. At each major stage in the construction and commissioning process, the approval of the NII is required before the CEGB can proceed further.

Turning briefly to alternative sources of electricity, I should make clear that the Government is determined that renewable techniques should, in the longer term, make the maximum contribution of which they are economically capable. We are supporting a major research and development programme of which over £100 million has been spent to date. Strong support will continue to be provided for our programmes on wind, tide, and geothermal hot dry rocks.

My decision on Sizewell B reinforces the importance which the Government attaches to the role already played by nuclear power within the UK.

It now provides some 20 per cent of our electricity requirements and with those stations due for commissioning in the near future, a quarter of Britain's electricity will come from nuclear power.

On any projection of world energy needs there is no way of meeting those needs in the coming decades without the emergence of a substantial contribution from nuclear power.

My Sizewell decision today will enable Britain to play its part in that endeavour.

Decision 'sets wrong pattern for future'

Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on energy, questioning Mr Walker about his Sizewell statement, said: We regret this decision. It sets the wrong pattern for the future energy requirments in the UK for the next decade and beyond.

Sir Frank Layfield laboured long and hard to produce his report but it was out of date both on the economics of electricity generation and on safety, particularly as he had not dealt with the Chernobyl disaster.

We are astonished that these new factors have been dismissed by Mr Walker. Will he publish the evidence which convinced him on this particular point?

We believe there is no justification in building the imported technology of the PWR in Britain. Can he assure the House that this will not lead to the construction of the PWR family throughout the country and that in future applications for construction of PWRs will each be judged independently?

The Layfield report laid considerable emphasis on the responsibility of the nuclear inspectorate. What steps are being taken to ensure that the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate is adequately staffed in order that they may fulfil their responsibilities?

Sir Frank Layfield lists 14 recommendations that he regards as a minimum if consent was given. Would he ensure that all Layfield's recommendations on safety criteria will be applied?

It seems extraordinary that the decision has been taken to proceed with the PWR before the Government and responsible agencies have solved the problems of disposable nuclear waste. Many Conservative MPs would share his misgivings on the matter.

In a nation rich in its indigenous energy sources, a saner, more economic and safer option would be the construction of a modern and clean coal-fired station to meet the nation's capacity more quickly and more cheaply. We will continue to urge this policy upon the Government.

Mr Peter Walker said the Labour Party believed in eradicating the nuclear industry, leaving the country totally dependent on one energy source only. He could not think of a more irresponsible policy.

The Soviet Union published in detail all the Chernobyl events. They said it was a wrongly designed reactor with faulty engineering and that there had been human error.

Of the work done at Sizewell B, 93 per cent would be produced in this country by British firms. For the first time, Britain would have an opportunity in the massively expanding PWR market taking place throughout the world. "In terms of our trade policy, it is a very considerable advantage to this country."

He could guarantee that staff at the nuclear inspectorate would be at an adequate level. A very substantial recruitment campaign was taking place in order to meet requirments.

The Government had accepted all the main recommendations of Sir Frank Layfield.

On the question of the alternative of coal, it was up to the Central Electricity Generating Board to make applications to the Government. They had been looking at the possibilities of a number of coal stations. He expected that they would be making such an application in the near future.

Mr John Hannam (Exeter, C) commended the decision and asked, in the interests of maintaining competitive electricity prices, how this programme compared with those of Britain's major industrial competitors.

Mr Walker: I have announced only one go-ahead and this is a modest contribution.

France, for instance, intended to build 15 nuclear power stations by 1995. The Japanese had started a programme for 16 before 1995 and a much bigger programme which in the foreseeable future would take them to 60 per cent dependence on nuclear energy.

Germany had confirmed a programme of four nuclear stations by 1990. The United States had commissioned 12 new stations in the past two years and 19 were under construction.

Mr Malcolm Bruce (Gordon, L) said the decision was to be regretted and opposed. Had consideration been given to investing the money which the PWR would cost in energy conservation instead and whether the savings would have been greater?

Mr Walker said amid laughter that in preparation for today he had studied the policy of Mr Bruce's party or parties and had discovered that there was one policy for the Liberal Party, which was virtually identical to that of Labour, and one policy for the SDP which was totally different, and a new Alliance policy which one could not even comprehend.

Labour policy 'disloyal to Nato'

PRIME MINISTER

Labour's defence policy was incompatible with loyal membership of Nato, Mrs Thatcher said during question time. Labour policies would endanger the Nato alliance, which she described as the cornerstone of British security.

Sir Peter Emery (Honiton, C) asked the Prime Minister to instruct those accompanying her to Moscow that it was imperative for the defence of Europe that any agreement should cover not only intermediate-range nuclear weapons (INF), but also shorter-range weapons, which might not be a danger to the United States, but were a big danger to European defence.

Mrs Thatcher: This is a highly complicated matter and, as I have made clear on a number of occasions, you cannot look at any single aspect of arms control in isolation.

An INF agreement would have to provide for consultations on systems which could be used to circumvent it, like the longer-range Soviet SS12, SS22 and SS23. The draft treaty tabled by the United States would do that effectively.

At the same time there must be provision for follow-on negotiations to deal further with those arms.

Mrs Virginia Bottomley (South West Surrey, C) invited the Prime Minister to send a copy of Monday's *Hansard* to President Reagan (laughter and cheers) to show him, before he met Mr Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, what the Labour defence policy was.

Mrs Thatcher: I entirely agree that Labour defence policies will gravely endanger the Nato alliance (Conservative cheers), which is the cornerstone of our security. You cannot claim to be a loyal member of Nato while dissociating yourself from its strategy, based on nuclear deterrence.

Mr Michael Shersby (Uxbridge, C) had earlier asked the Prime Minister to consider the concern in many sections of the community about the possession of chemical weapons by the Soviet Union, and to discuss that with Mr Gorbachov.

Mrs Thatcher: We have been gravely concerned about the position of chemical weapons. We have been active in trying to secure disarmament in those weapons, as we gave them up many years ago.

Pledge on Westland evidence

Any new evidence about a share-dealing "concert party" operating in connection with Westland would be dealt with in the appropriate way, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during question time in the Commons.

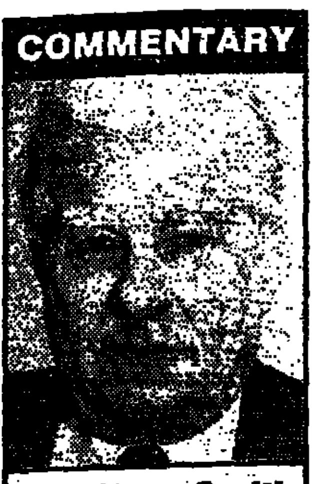
Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, asked: In view of the fact that information about illegal concert-party operations in the shares of Westland plc has been available to the Government for some months, what action has the Government taken to establish who precisely was involved with the nominee companies and what measures can be taken against them?

Mrs Thatcher: The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry (Mr Paul Channon) made it quite clear some time ago that he was not taking any further action on this matter.

Mr Kinnock: Does that answer mean that the Secretary of State and the Prime Minister are certain that there is no one involved in this operation who falls within the UK's jurisdiction?

Mrs Thatcher: I am not quite certain whether Mr Kinnock is referring to something that has come to light in recent times. That of course will be considered in the appropriate way.

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

Mr Neil Kinnock is a rugby enthusiast as well as a politician. So perhaps it comes naturally to him to express himself politically in sporting terms.

His admonition to Labour MPs this week to demonstrate self-discipline and the will to win would have been entirely appropriate as a pre-match pep talk. The reference to self-discipline would have been particularly apposite at Cardiff Arms Park last Saturday.

But as a remedy for the ills now afflicting the Labour Party it is insufficient. Labour could certainly do with a bit more self-discipline. No political party can expect to hold power in this country unless its members are prepared to compromise on the less essential items of public policy. But such compromise is possible over any length of time only when there is broad agreement on the fundamental issues.

What is plaguing Labour today, as it has done for some years, is the doubt as to whether the party is any longer capable of reaching such broad agreement on terms acceptable to the electorate. The problem is not so much a failure of discipline on trifling matters as a clash of convictions on basic questions.

Can the party reach agreement?

If all that was required was the discipline to accept policies that would increase the party's chances of winning, it is not Mr Callaghan who should be asked to compromise on defence. It is Mr Kinnock.

A non-nuclear defence policy does not command the confidence of the public. Labour's defence proposals were its biggest single policy handicap in the last general election, and they look like being so again. But Mr Kinnock sticks to them because he believes in them.

One must respect him for that, even if one cannot agree with him. But Mr Callaghan is no less deserving of respect. To ascribe his consistency on defence to the fact that he is an old man, as the youthful Mr Healey did the other day, was unjust as well as ungenerous.

On a great national issue Mr Callaghan has been faithful to the line that both he and Mr Healey followed for all their years in government — whereas Mr Healey has latterly been toeing the party line on defence in a way that gives discipline a bad name.

The problem for the Labour Party that Mr Callaghan and Mr Kinnock personify in their contrasting approaches to defence is that they believe passionately in different things. Nor is that the only example.

It would no doubt be convenient for Labour if the "loony left" who are so prominent in London would keep their true thoughts more to themselves. The more they say what they believe the more they frighten the voters.

The real problem for Labour, though, is not that a few indiscreet remarks are made, but that people with these views are selected as candidates for winnable seats. Either seats are lost which could otherwise be won, or the balance of the parliamentary party is progressively changed in a way that is unattractive to the country at large.

Every political party contains within its ranks a range of opinions. But the range within Labour at the moment is so wide as to threaten its coherence as a party. The logical answer is not to try for ever to impose disciplinary restraints on those who do not share fundamental beliefs, but to expel them.

Mr Kinnock was therefore on the right lines in seeking to get rid of the Militants. But the complications he faced in expelling even a handful of them demonstrated the difficulty of that course.

It is partly that so many Labour members have a pathological fear of a witch hunt, as if the right to belong to the Labour Party, irrespective of political beliefs, was a basic human freedom. It is also that it is extremely hard to distinguish all those extremists whom it would be better to kick out.

But the nature of the challenge should be clear. It is not to create a party in which nobody dares to speak out of turn. It is to convince the electorate that Labour is a coherent party, both holding sufficient convictions in common on fundamental issues and remaining in touch with the mainstream of British opinion.

Thatcher refuses meeting

The Prime Minister unhesitatingly rejected a suggestion by Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, that she should meet a broadly based deputation from Liverpool to discuss the financial damage left behind by disqualified city councillors.

Mr Steel: In view of the judgement in the House of Lords this afternoon disqualifying 47 councillors in Liverpool, will she recognize that the financial damage left behind will require united action in the city and co-operation from the Government to rectify it?

Will she therefore agree, in that spirit, to meet next week a broadly based deputation from the city, of political, church and industrial leaders?

Mrs Thatcher: No. Liverpool council was democratically elected.

There will be both local elections and by-elections on May 7, I expect, when the council will be reconstituted. Those who are democratically elected must learn to take responsibility for their actions (Labour protests).

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab): She may be aware that the so-called irresponsible council of Liverpool has in the past three years built 4,600 houses — (a Conservative MP: With other people's money).

If that is irresponsible, what about the actions of the Secretary of State for the Environment (Mr Nicholas Ridley)?

Congratulations for Haughey

King reaffirms support for agreement

N IRELAND

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, reaffirmed his commitment to the Anglo-Irish agreement during Commons questions and offered congratulations to Mr Charles Haughey on his election as Prime Minister of the Irish Republic.

He said that he had no plans at present to meet Mr Haughey, but looked forward to doing so before too long. He hoped they would have an encouraging and productive relationship.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab) said that as leader of the Opposition in the republic, Mr Haughey had had very great reservations about the agreement and made them very obvious in the Dail.

He had reservations in particular about what was called the veto of the majority in Northern Ireland. Would Mr King explore this issue with him?

Mr King said that he had noted Mr Haughey's comments made to the political editor of the *Irish Times* in which he had accepted that the agreement was an accord and therefore had to be accepted as binding.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Mossley Hill, L), Alliance spokesman on Northern Ireland, said that the one thing that united extreme opinion on both sides was opposition to the agreement. Anything done to dilute the commitment of this House or the Dail to the agreement would be to play into the hands of extremist opinion.

Mr King said that there was no question that the most violent opposition of all came from the IRA.

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C): When it becomes clear to him that the agreement cannot achieve its declared purpose of peace, stability and reconciliation, will he propose to the Irish Government a renegotiation of that agreement?

Mr King: I have made clear to the House my commitment to the agreement. It is my belief that it does offer the best way forward. I certainly do not seek a renegotiation of it.

Later, Mr King accused the IRA of being the "godfathers" of unemployment throughout Ireland through their conduct of violence.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall N, Lab) wondered, as the Provisional Sinn Fein had gained only 2 per cent of the vote in the recent Irish elections, where their mandate was for the continuing campaign of violence and terrorism.

Mr King, in endorsing those comments, said that it was absolutely clear that the derisory vote for Sinn Fein showed that they represented nobody in what they claimed to be their attempt to represent some great Irish aspiration.

Mr Roy Mason (Barnsley Central, Lab) said he hoped the minister would discuss with the

Mr Tom King: Violent opposition from IRA.

Taoiseach that people in the North were becoming wise to the Provisional Sinn Fein bombing and bullet campaign in the North and know that "Gerry Adams is scurrying around Britain to try to rally support for his party".

He said the Sinn Fein had got a "black eye" in the Irish Republic's elections and he hoped the minister and the Taoiseach would raise their political profile and defeat the Provisional Sinn Fein still further.

Mr King replied that, while the IRA may conduct their violence in the North, the apparent damage they did to the economy in the South was all too clear. "They are actually the godfathers of the appalling level of unemployment throughout Ireland."

Mr Stuart Bell (Middlesborough, Lab), an opposition spokesman, made clear that a Labour administration or opposition condemned the "use of the ballot paper in one hand and the Armalite in the other".

During further exchanges, Mr Alfred Dubs (Battersea, Lab) asked: In their discussions with the Irish Government about the Anglo-Irish agreement will ministers make it clear that while improving security must be the important objective, it would be letting the nationalist population of the six counties down badly if it were to be seen by them as the only objective? They will, quite rightly, wish to see further progress in other fields.

Mr Nicholas Scott, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, agreed. Reassurance to the nationalist community could itself be of help to the security forces.

Miss Clare Short (Birmingham, Ladywood, Lab) said that the Anglo-Irish agreement had had the benefit of exposing the people of Britain to the unreasonableness of the Unionists. A recent poll showed that a majority of people in Britain wanted to withdraw from Ireland and there were more people who thought that Dr Ian Paisley was an evil presence than those who thought that Gerry Adams was.

Mr Scott replied that the benefits of the agreement were manifest to all the people of Northern Ireland.

Churches 'should work together'

The churches in Northern Ireland ought to be able to work together without theological compromise in promoting community relations, Dr Brian Mawhinney, Under-Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said during question time in the Commons.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C) had suggested that the role of the churches in the province went far wider than merely good community relations; it was their job to preach the Gospel.

Dr Mawhinney said that he agreed with that, but the churches also had a responsibility to make a contribution to community relations.

"I would hope we can advance along that line, at least in terms of community work, where the churches ought to be able to work together without any theological compromise."

Miss Clare Short (Birmingham, Ladywood, Lab) said that there was a confused idea that the problems of Northern Ireland were due to differences over religion, when in fact they were over who controlled "the statelet" and who had dominion over others.

Dr Mahwinney said that he would not accept the designation of "statelet" for an integral part of the United Kingdom. He recognized that there were a variety of pressures contributing to the difficulties in the province.

Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: The Budget.

Wednesday and Thursday: Debate on the Budget.

Friday: Debate on private member's motion on law and order.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Banking Bill, committee, first day.

Tuesday: Abolition of Domestic Rates Etc (Scotland) Bill, second reading.

Wednesday: Debates on the Croham report on the University Grants Committee and on curbing the increasing exposure of the professions to civil liability.

Thursday: Consumer Protection Bill, third reading. Patents (Amendment) Bill, committee, second day.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debates on private members' motions on treatment and care of cancer patients and on gypsy caravan sites.

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Scots preparing for large surge in Aids deaths, MPs told

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Authorities in Edinburgh are preparing for a dramatic explosion in the number of Aids deaths from next year because of the unique circumstances in which the disease was introduced to the city.

Deaths in the region of the capital could by then be one or two a day, MPs on the urgent parliamentary inquiry into Aids (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) were told yesterday during their two-day visit to Edinburgh.

Members of the Social Services Committee were also told that the police had exacerbated the problem through their insistence on taking needles away from drug addicts when arresting them.

Evidence given by doctors to the committee said that Aids had reached Edinburgh, possibly through an American addict, in September 1983.

Its arrival coincided with an "epidemic" of heroin addiction and widespread needle sharing in the city, leading to the rate of incidence of infection among tested addicts increasing from nought to 50 per cent in two years, "the fastest rate yet recorded in the world".

There were now estimated to be at least 2,000 Aids carriers in the city. Some were already showing symptoms of the disease. With an incubation period of four years and an expectation that one in five carriers will develop the disease, at least 400 terminally ill Aids patients were expected next year.

That contrasts with just 16 cases of Aids and 11 deaths in Scotland so far.

"We are waiting for an enormous surge and trying very hard to equip ourselves", Mr Roger Kent, director of social work for Lothian Regional Council, said.

"At the moment we are keeping our heads above water but we have to get ready for something very, very much greater which is about to hit us."

Existing medical and social services would have to be dramatically expanded and staff retrained. The budget could be "completely skewed up". Council representatives pleaded either for more government money or to be allowed to spend more on Aids treatment without incurring grant penalties.

Allegations about the police were made during the MPs' visit to an Edinburgh drug advice centre and came from organizations helping addicts

They are supported by a government committee on Aids infection in Scotland which reported last autumn that one explanation for the rapid spread of the virus was police emphasis on removing syringes and needles.

"The resultant non-availability of sterile equipment in the city appears to have contributed to extensive sharing of equipment", the report said. Police forces in other cities were less rigid, it said, calling for a review of procedures to ensure "they do not prejudice infection control measures".

Mr William Sutherland, chief constable of Lothian and Borders police, agreed with MPs yesterday that Aids was now a greater threat than heroin but said that the law required injection equipment to be produced in court as evidence.

He said he would co-operate with the experimental scheme to exchange old needles for new which begins in Edinburgh next month, but feared it might appear to condone drug abuse. Greater emphasis should be given to discouraging the young from using drugs, he said.

Miss Lindka Cierach, designer of the Duchess of York's wedding dress, and Mr Robert Gieve, vice-chairman of Gieves and Hawkes, preparing yesterday for her first ready-to-wear collection to be unveiled at the Savile Row store today (Photograph: John Rogers).

Attempt to cut cost of business air travel

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

A plan for cut-price air tickets for businessmen is to be put to Europe's airlines.

The Geneva-based International Foundation of Airline Passengers' Associations (Ifapa) said yesterday that businessman had been forgotten in the drive to introduce cheaper air fares in Europe. It is proposing a new fare called BPEX which it claims would cut prices by between 10 per cent and 40 per cent.

"Most airlines have deliberately avoided lower priced products for business passengers and most governments have been unwilling to take action to change this situation", Geoffrey Lipman, executive director of Ifapa, said.

The new fare "is designed for the business traveller who is now getting a raw deal. What is missing in Europe is experiment ."

Under the proposals businessmen would be able to book any fare from first class to economy 72 hours in advance and qualify for the reduction. If they failed to turn up — a common problem facing airlines which have long complained of "no shows" — they would be charged 50 per cent of the cost of the ticket.

Newman under fire in police magazine

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

Sir Kenneth Newman, the outgoing Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, has been criticized for failing to put across his ideas to junior ranks and damaging police morale.

The criticism comes in the latest issue of the Police Federation's monthly magazine. The federation represents more than 20,000 members of the 27,000 strong London force and in the past it has given Sir Kenneth a rough ride, especially after the Broadwater Farm estate riot.

In an editorial on Sir Kenneth's announcement a fortnight ago that he leaves in July, the magazine says: "He has been seen by the rank and file as an aloof intellectual more concerned with the philosophy of policing.

"In the near future the force will be looking forward to a new era in which self confidence can be restored by a renewal in the belief in the commitment of force management to the well being and efficiency of the force."

The magazine hopes if Mr Peter Imbert, the new commissioner, can persuade his commanders to do what their instincts tell them, "rather than compromise for the sake of political approval", the London police can still turn the tide of crime.

Plea for tax to help children

Lord Soper, the Methodist peer, yesterday described the plight of thousands of children in Britain as a "disgraceful and appalling" evil. He was helping to launch a campaign for a £650 million "budget" for suffering youngsters.

He said he found it intolerable that one in three children smoked and that many young girls were likely to have been seriously drunk during the past four months.

The National Children's Home charity, of which Lord Soper is vice-president, wants the Chancellor of the Exchequer to divert half a penny in the pound of income tax to raise the money for child care services.

It also wants big increases in duty on tobacco and alcohol, more money for community health care, and increases in family income supplement and child benefit at a rate higher than inflation.

"We are heading for all kinds of disaster unless and until we are prepared to care for the children of today in the belief that they shall be the citizens, and the worthy citizens, of tomorrow", Lord Soper said at the launch in St Bride's Church, Fleet Street, central London.

If the child was put first, he said, it would help the rest of society and future generations.

At the launch was Sally Alvelos, aged four, who will present the children's budget to Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, next Tuesay. Sally, from Tufnell Park, north London, will hand in a burgundy briefcase and a huge "cheque" for £650 million at 11 Downing Street.

The charity has produced a booklet, *Children in Danger*, highlighting the threats they face from poverty, drugs, sex, alcohol abuse and family breakdowns.

● Government economic policies are causing a disintegration of family life, leading to marital breakdowns, and insecurity for the young and the old, claimed a new pressure group, Familybase, launched yesterday (Our Social Services Correspondent writes).

The Christian organization, set up by the Jubilee Centre which successfully campaigned against Sunday shopping, aims to strengthen existing family networks and lobby the Government on specific policies undermining that aim.

Man sent for trial over rapes

A body-builder accused of 14 offences including abducting two teenage girls, rape and unlawfully killing a baby girl was committed to St Alban's Crown Court in custody by Cheshunt Magistrates yesterday.

The north London man, aged 30, is charged with abducting a 19-year-old on December 19 with intent to have sexual intercourse with her, stealing and carrying her away, and raping her.

He is also accused of abducting a 17-year-old girl, assaulting and raping her on and after Christmas Day.

The man is finally charged with killing Gemma Louise Smallbone, aged five months, on December 29 in a road accident in Norfolk.

Boys charged with attack

Two schoolboys were remanded in care for seven days by Liverpool Juvenile Court yesterday accused of wounding an assistant headmaster in a hammer attack.

Magistrates were told that the alleged attack by the boys, aged 14 and 15, took place in a lavatory block at a comprehensive school in the city on Tuesday.

City man on bribes charge

A former senior executive of Johnson Matthey, the City bankers, faced further charges of corruption when he was committed to the Central Criminal Court for trial by Guildhall magistrates yesterday.

Michael John Flawn, aged 38, of Ploughman's Way, Rainham, Kent, was accused of accepting bribes totalling £6,000 between December 1983 and June 1984. He is also accused of stealing a total of £2,583 from Johnson Matthey. He was granted unconditional bail.

'Boy' charged

Boy George, the pop singer, was yesterday charged at Kentish Town, north-west London, with possesing 2.44 grammes of cannabis on December 20. He was bailed to appear before Highbury magistrates on March 20.

8,000 ways of calling a spade a garden tool

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

Euphemism, the "language of evasion, hypocrisy, prudery and deceit", has its own dictionary, compiled by a British businessman who has spent several years collecting 8,000 ways of not calling a spade a spade in Britain and the United States.

Mr Robert Holder, who is pro-chancellor of Bath University, claims to be ideally qualified to compile his dictionary because "an academic would not have had the incessant travelling which gave me the material".

He is an authority on sexual, scatological and drug-orientated slang of the past two centuries, and has been an amateur linguist all his life. According to him, euphemism not only includes words to cover things not mentioned in polite company but also words used to obscure meaning altogether.

He picks out some expressions which we may use as euphemisms without realizing it: "helping the police with their inquiries", "population transfer", and "minority group", defined by Mr Holder as "a community of non-whites living in a predominantly white-occupied country".

Mr Holder said yesterday that euphemisms "show up the taboos in a society and its hang-ups. In the nineteenth century people feared bankruptcy enormously. There were hundreds of euphemisms for it which are totally disused now.

"And there were at least twenty euphemisms, including 'being without a head' and 'wearing green garters', indicating the unease about the appalling lot of single women in that century."

Modern growth areas for euphemism, he believes, are homosexuality and disability (itself a euphemism in Mr Holder's view).

The Dictionary of Euphemisms (Bath University Press; £22.50).

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German plea over beer rejected by EEC court

By David Sapsted

West Germany's 471-year-old laws governing the purity of beer, which have been used to block imports by foreign brewers, were ruled in breach of the EEC's principles of free trade by the European Court of Justice yesterday.

The move opens up a market of the world's most enthusiastic beer-drinkers to a potential flood of foreign competition, although British brewers see little prospect of a sales bonanza for their brands.

Under the 1516 laws, only hops, barley malt, water and yeast are allowed in domestic West German beers. Most of the world's beers now contain harmless chemical preservatives and processing agents, as well as substances such as wheat and sugar.

"The German laws were, in fact, anti-competition tax laws and had nothing to do with purity. Every material the West Germans were banning in their beer they are using in all their other foodstuffs", the Brewers' Society said.

"Indeed, the absurdity of the situation is illustrated by the fact that most of the 600,000 barrels of German beer sold in Britain each year do not comply with German law because they contain the very preservatives their own law bans."

The Netherlands, Belgium and France, which brought the European Court case against West Germany, are expected to be the main beneficiaries of the ruling.

However, British brewers hope a useful if not huge market for bitter, mild and specialist beers will open up in Germany.

"Every nation has its group of discerning beer drinkers. The West Germans will now be able to enjoy our ale, which we rightly regard as the best in the world", the society said.

The West Germans drink the most beer a head of any nation: 255 pints a year. The East Germans, who do not have the same brewing restrictions, are second

The European Court ruling will also affect Greece which, alone among EEC nations, has similar purity laws.

● The BBC is to teach the French how to eat and drink (Our Media Correspondent writes).

As part of its push to export British culture worldwide, the corporation said yesterday it has begun to make a selection of pages from its Ceefax teletext service available to more than two million subscribers to the French Mintel system.

Included in the BBC offering will be a selection of recipes, and food and wine suggestions.

Mintel is considered by the French to be a triumph of Gallic technology on a par with the TGV high-speed train and the Ariane satellite launcher.

The machines resemble small computers and are given away free by the telephone department of the post office. They are used to look up telephone numbers, scan the latest news and, using an interactive function, make romantic assignations.

Pensioners queue in the cold to get EEC food handouts

Pensioners and others in need queuing outside the Salvation Army's City Temple in Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, for supplies of milk, butter and cheese from EEC stockpiles.

By Peter Davenport

At 7.20am with the temperature around freezing point, Robert Forster, a retired ship's entertainer on a disability pension, was queuing outside the Salvation Army's City Temple in Newcastle upon Tyne for his handout of milk, butter and cheese, courtesy of the EEC Commissioners.

It has been his routine for the past four weeks. Although the distribution would not begin for another 2½ hours, he was determined to be at the head. By 9.30 the wisdom of his early start was clear; some 3,000 people, mainly the elderly clutching pension books, were queuing around the block.

The operation to hand out millions of pounds of stockpiled EEC food to the aged and needy, which began in response to hardships caused by the severe January weather, has brought unexpected problems of organization and distribution to the charities and agencies undertaking the task.

The demand has taken them all by surprise.

At the City Temple they have queued each Wednesday and Friday, in driving snow, rain and wind but always in their thousands. The scene is being repeated around the country, especially in areas of high unemployment.

Captain John Maslen, of the Salvation Army, said yesterday: "It is a depressing commentary that they are prepared to endure the cold and the wet and a chance of disappointment for a few pounds worth of groceries".

Mr Forster, aged 60, said: "It does seem a lot to go through just for a 1lb of butter, ½lb of cheese and a litre of milk but it is worth the effort. It probably saves me a few pounds a week and every little counts."

In some areas, coupled with confusion over who was eligible, volunteers have faced verbal, and sometimes physical, assault. There are rumours of supplies reaching the black market and concern over housebound pensioners being tricked by people pretending they will collect supplies.

Capt Maslen's North-east region runs from Redcar almost to Berwick, an area of high unemployment

Those eligible for supplies are on supplementary benefit, Family Income Supplement, meals on wheels, the homeless, feeding programmes and the very disadvantaged. But in the North-east, the Salvation Army includes all pensioners to avoid means testing.

Pension books and UB40 unemployment benefit forms are marked each time to prevent more than one claim a week.

In two days this week the City Temple will hand out 6,000 litres of milk, three tons of butter and 6,000 packs of cheese. In the region as a whole 230,000 litres of milk, 40 tons of cheese and 240 tons of butter will be given out by a small army of unpaid volunteers.

Food prices

Fresh fish in short supply

The weather is responsible for a shortage of fish this week, pushing up prices.

However, fresh Cornish mackerel are back on the slabs at 80p a lb. At the same price there are good quality herrings, and lemon sole are now just over £2 a lb.

Cod fillets are up about 50p to £2.40 and haddock to £2.30 a lb. Smoked cod and haddock are up 15p to £2.50. Frozen cod and haddock are considerably cheaper. Coley at about £1.10 and plaice fillets are among the best buys.

Farmed salmon, which has been such a good buy for the last few weeks, is now up to £4.25 a lb.

Grapefruit are appealing at this time of year when many people are trying to loose weight after a winter of stodge. From the United States, Cuba and Jaffa there are pink-fleshed fruit from 20-40p each, and from Cyprus, Jaffa and Spain the white-fleshed variety for 10-25p each.

Lemons at 8-20p each are excellent, and from Jamaica look out for orantiques, an orange/tangerine cross. When buying English Coxes at 25-48p a lb, make sure the fruit is not over-ripe or it will be tasteless and woolly.

Pineapples at 60p-£1.50 each, plums 50-90p a lb, grapes 75p-£1.15 a lb and avocados at 25-50p are all good buys.

The best value vegetables are all home grown. English Savoy and winter cabbages at 12-20p a lb, carrots 10-15p, parsnips 20-30p, swedes 15-25p, and leeks 25-50p a lb. Mushrooms at 40-65p a ½lb are also good value.

There is a good selection of English potatoes from 11-20p a lb and various imports from Egypt, Cyprus, Italy and Morocco at 20-45p a lb.

English hot-house tomatoes are a little cheaper this week at 80p-£1.10 a lb. But the imported ones are as little as 50-70p a lb. Chinese leaves at 50-80p each, celery 35-55p a head, and raw beetroot 12-20p a lb are the best salad buys.

Meat and poultry on promotion at supermarkets this week include Tesco fresh stewing steak at 99p a lb, fresh rump steak £1.98 a lb, and New Zealand leg of lamb 99p a lb. At Asda, home-produced rolled shoulder of pork is 89p a lb, and braising steak £1.29 a lb.

Sainsbury's minced beef is 78p a lb, stewing beef 96p a lb. At Marks & Spencer, fresh turkeys of 5lb-6lb 14oz are down 20p to 99p a lb, boneless turkey roast £1.69 a lb.

Amnesty for prisoners denied by Whitehall

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Home Office denied yesterday that it is to release a batch of non-violent prisoners to relieve increasing pressure on the jail system.

Executive release, as it is called, has been a tempting option since it was incorporated in the Criminal Justice Act, 1982. As the crisis has deepened it has always been one of the options open for discussion. Another is the use of converted army camps. A third is the possibility of increasing remission for non-violent offenders.

Ministers were due to consider them, as usual, yesterday at their regular meeting with Mr Chris Train, director general of the prison service. With the population expected to reach an unprecedented 50,000 in England and Wales by the end of the month, the question now is whether the pressure will be great enough to trigger emergency plans.

Ministers will also have to take into account the effect politically of trouble in prisons at election time and balance that possibility against charges of leniency if they were to release up to 6,000 burglars, shoplifters, forgers and crooks handling stolen goods.

It would be a brave decision, given the emphasis the Government puts on clearing up crime, respect for the courts and the money it is spending on the support of victims of crime. But if widespread riots were repeated and more prisons put out of use there might be no other choice.

In a statement yesterday, the Home Office said that Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, continuously kept the position under review

There was a problem in dealing with the rising prison population before places came on stream later in the year from the Government's programme of building

"Executive release has always been one option to use in extreme circumstances but it is quite untrue to say that plans have been drawn up for its use now. The question of an amnesty does not arise."

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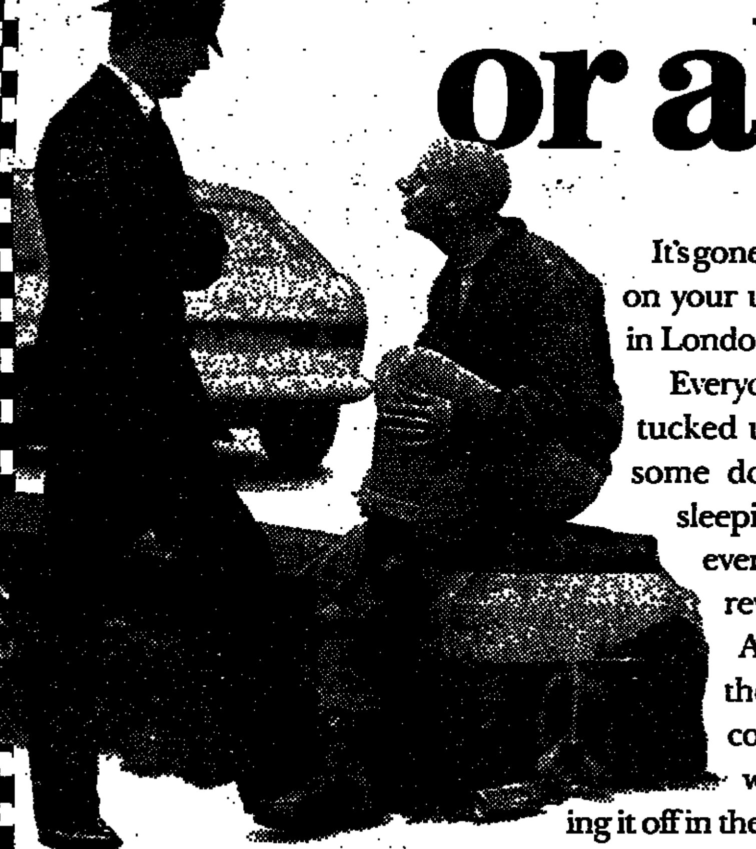
The power of arrest. Would you use it or abuse it?



It's gone midnight on your usual beat in London.

Everyone's safely tucked up in bed, some doubtlessly sleeping off the evening's revelry.

Apart from the one you come across who's sleeping it off in the gutter.

Naturally, you do your duty and arrest him for being drunk and incapable.

Or do you? If the man has alcoholic poisoning, your first priority should be to summon an ambulance.

Or perhaps he's suffering from a pre-wedding prank and leniency is in order. (Remember the stag nights you've been on?)

Then again, a night in the cells might be in the interests of his own safety.

In short, there's no simple answer to what would, at first, appear to be a very simple problem.

And believe us, you'll regularly come across far more difficult nuts to crack.

The speeding driver who has a worried, pregnant wife in the back. Would you arrange to get them safely to hospital?

The house where a badly bruised child opens the door. Could it be the result of something more than a playground fall?

In each case, you must decide whether a friendly word or a formal caution would be of more use than an arrest.

Thinking on your feet.

Obviously, you don't know how you'd react to a situation until you find yourself in it.

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In situations that would make a lesser man's blood boil, you'll stay calm and help things simmer down.

You'll no longer automatically assume the scruffily dressed youngster is responsible for the broken telephone kiosk he's lounging against. Or immediately believe the city gent in the pristine saloon who says he didn't realise this was a pedestrian precinct, officer.

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LONDON'S METROPOLITAN POLICE

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Moscow widens the terms of arms debate

Cut in forces could follow missiles deal

By Nicholas Beeston

The Soviet Union and the United States could withdraw their medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe "within six months" and leave the way open for "drastic reductions in conventional forces", a senior Soviet arms control expert said yesterday.

Mr Viktor Karpov, the chief of the arms control directorate at the Foreign Ministry, told reporters at a press conference in London that, if a treaty was successfully negotiated, it would open the way for reductions in other categories of nuclear and conventional forces.

However, he was adamant that any agreement to reduce short-range nuclear missiles, one of the current obstacles in the Geneva negotiations, could not be directly linked to an agreement on medium-range weapons.

On the question of verification, Mr Karpov said he felt it was important that inspectors from both sides should be given access to each other's missile sites, "so there is no cheating".

"Of course, we would like to have inspectors at Greenham Common and we will allow Western inspectors at our bases where SS 20s will be dismantled or destroyed," he explained.

Once that was completed, Mr Karpov said, the Soviet Union wanted "a new series of measures that could create a new system of security in Europe, which would include reduction of nuclear and conventional forces".

Mr Viktor Karpov addressing a press conference at the Soviet Embassy in London yesterday, flanked by a bust of Lenin.

He added that the Soviet Union, which enjoys a superiority in conventional forces over Nato in Europe, was keen to begin "drastic reductions in conventional forces ... as soon as possible".

On the question of nuclear testing, he said Moscow would discontinue its testing programme as soon as America did the same.

He denied US claims made yesterday that a Soviet test on February 26 had released radioactive fallout into the atmosphere.

"As far as the release of debris is concerned, I can assure you that our scientists are conducting tests in a way that would not allow debris breaking out," he said. "I was assured by those people responsible for our testing."

● *MOSCOW:* The Soviet Union yesterday conducted its second nuclear test within 15 days, after ending the 19-month unilateral moratorium that failed in its aim of persuading the US to agree to a mutual ban on all nuclear weapons testing (Christopher Walker writes).

Tass reported that the underground explosion at the main test site near Semipalatinsk in the Central Asian republic of Kazakhstan took place at 2 am GMT and was "conducted with the aim of improving military equipment".

Western diplomatic observers were quick to note that this was a different public explanation of the purpose of the blast from the one given when the moratorium was first broken on February 26, also with a blast of up to 20 kilotons (the equivalent of 20,000 tonnes of dynamite).

On that occasion, which was followed by a propaganda offensive aimed at blaming the resumption on the negative attitude of the White House, Major-General Gely Batyenin, a Defence Ministry spokesman, said that the explosion had been staged "for purposes of fundamental research" and had not involved a nuclear warhead.

Mr Boris Pyadyshev, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, refused to elaborate on the differences between the two tests, but diplomatic sources speculated that, for the purpose of its international image, the Kremlin had not wanted to break the moratorium with a specific military test such as that announced yesterday.

Mr Pyadyshev denied US charges that the February 26 explosion had violated a nuclear weapons test treaty by sending radioactive debris beyond the Soviet Union's frontiers.

The Kremlin has denied that its latest blasts constitute a specific new series and claims that they are necessary to maintain the strategic balance.

WORLD SUMMARY

Hostages freed at Spanish plant

Madrid – Police used riot gear yesterday to free a newly appointed member of the Basque regional Government and five business executives in the northern Spanish town of Reinosa, where steelworkers held them hostage for 20 hours to protest against planned lay-offs (Harry Debelius writes).

After the dawn raid on the steelworks by police, sporadic clashes between police and steelworkers continued until early in the afternoon. About 50 people were injured in an exchange of stones, smoke bombs and other missiles. Four policemen were said be seriously hurt.

The principle hostage was Señor Enrique Antolín, until Wednesday chairman of the state-run company which operates the steel mill, Forjas y Aceros. He was set free just in time to drive to the Basque regional capital of Vitoria, where he was sworn in early yesterday afternoon as Counsellor for Transport and Public Works for the Basque regional Government. He had gone to the steel mill to remove personal possessions from his office.

Former premier fined

Sydney – Mr Neville Wran, the former Premier of New South Wales, was yesterday fined $Aus 25,000 (about £10,750) by the state's court of appeal for contempt of court (Stephen Taylor writes).

Mr Wran was a close friend of Mr Justice Murphy, the High Court judge who died of cancer last year after being first convicted and then acquitted of attempting to use his influence to pervert the course of justice. In the midst of these proceedings in 1985, when Mr Justice Murphy was facing a new trial, Mr Wran said he had "a very deep conviction that Justice Murphy is innocent of any wrongdoing". A few months later, after contempt charges were laid against him, Mr Wran resigned.

Nationwide News, owners of *The Daily Telegraph* in Sydney, which published the remark, were fined $Aus 200,000 for contempt.

Threat by students

Antananarivo (AP) – The students of Antananarivo University, whose strike last month triggered two weeks of anti-Asian rioting throughout Madagascar, in which three people died, presented a three-point ultimatum to the Government of President Didier Ratsiraka yesterday.

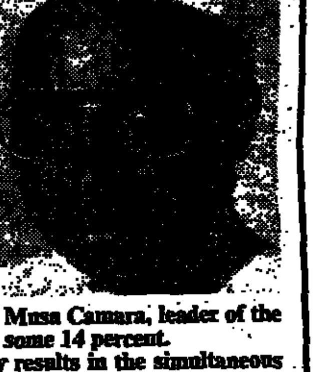
They threatened unspecified action within seven days if the Government refused to withdraw security forces from campuses, free some 40 students still held by the police, and to cancel a cost-saving plan to reduce the study programmes of most students.

Rebels hit ore train

Lima (AP) – Guerrillas used dynamite to derail a train carrying copper ore in the central highlands, the Peruvian Government said. No one was injured in the attack early on Tuesday, which happened soon after the train left La Oroya, but the blast threw a locomotive and six cars down an embankment.

Earlier, soldiers killed six rebels on Friday and Saturday in Ayacucho, the birthplace of the left-wing Shining Path movement, according to a military statement. More than 10,000 people have been reported killed since the insurgency began nearly seven years ago.

Gambia's same again



Banjul (AP) – Sir Dawda Jawara, right, leader of Gambia since British colonial rule ended in 1965, has been elected President for the fourth time in national elections with a majority of more than 60 per cent.

With more than half the constituencies reporting, Sir Dawda had received more than 61 per cent of the votes cast. His strongest rival, Sherif Mustapha Dibba, leader of the National Convention Party, received 25 per cent, while a third candidate, Assan Musa Camara, leader of the Gambia People's Party, polled some 14 percent.

According to the preliminary results in the simultaneous legislative elections, Sir Dawda's ruling Progressive People's Party won at least 20 of the 36 parliamentary seats.

Elections rejected

Colombo (Reuter) – Sri Lanka's main Tamil political party yesterday shrugged off the Government's offer to hold parliamentary by-elections in Tamil areas, saying that polls would not be possible until normal conditions are restored.

Mr Neelan Tiruchelvam, a spokesman for the Tamil United Liberation Front, said: "We see no real prospects of elections until some political accord is reached."

Ottawa's speed-up

Ottawa – Canada will expedite prosecution of war criminals for offences committed in other countries, in line with a recommendation in a Royal Commission report released yesterday (John Best writes).

The Minister of Justice, Mr Ray Hnatyshyn, turned down a suggestion that Canada consider following the American example of stripping some war crimes suspects retroactively of their citizenship and deporting them.

Tear gas ends Johannesburg protest

**From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg**

The South African police used tear gas yesterday to disperse about 100 blacks who ran through the streets of central Johannesburg chanting and singing after attending a meeting in support of demands for the release of people detained without trial.

Nearly 1,000 people of all races packed into the Methodist Central Church to mark "National Detainees' Day" in response to advertisements placed in several South African newspapers over the past few days by the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC).

The placing of the advertisements led to an attempt last Tuesday by the security police to seize all editions of *The Star*, Johannesburg's evening newspaper. The police were stopped by a Supreme Court injunction sought by the paper.

After the meeting ended, part of the crowd spilled out into the street singing freedom songs and shouting: "*Amandla*", the Black Power slogan. Plain-clothes policemen squirted tear gas at the demonstrators from a car. It was the first public protest in Johannesburg in months.

Dr Beyers Naudé, the General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches, told the lunchtime gathering: "As long as one child remains in prison or detention, our country remains in shackles."

Placards held aloft in the church hall called for the freeing of detainees and of Mr Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned leader of the African National Congress (ANC). To make such demands is arguably illegal under the state of emergency.

The DPSC estimates that 25,000 people have been detained without trial for varying periods since the emergency was declared last June and that 10,000 have been aged 18 or under.

The Government admits to having held some 13,200, but this figure includes only people detained for 30 days or longer.

The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, has disclosed that police killed a total of 716 people (647 blacks, 43 mixed-race Coloureds, 21 whites and five Indians), and wounded 2,088 others (almost all black) "in the execution of their duties" last year. These included those killed by the police both in unrest incidents and in other circumstances, such as "resisting arrest".

The ruling National Party, facing a loss of support to both left and right in the white general election on May 6, has been given a boost by the failure of two ultra-conservative parties – Dr Andries Treurnicht's Conservative Party and Mr Jaap Marais' Herstigte Nasionale Party – to form an electoral pact.

Returned Mozambique refugees face struggle

From Paul Vallely, Estima Valley, Mozambique

The Estima Valley is where the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees plans to resettle about 70,000 Mozambican refugees whom it hopes to repatriate from Malawi in the coming months. It is a desperate remedy.

The valley was surveyed and partially cleared by the Portuguese during the colonial period, with the intention of starting a large-scale irrigation project to accommodate thousands of Portuguese settlers in the late 1950s.

To revive the irrigation plan would cost about $20 million (£12.04 million) and take several years, according to Mr John Cosgrave, an Irish water engineer who works in the region for the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) relief agency. Instead, the plan is to install the refugees and hope that they can survive on the natural rainfall.

The UN acknowledges the scale of the problem. In its latest report on the scheme, it concedes that the Estima Valley "has a high total crop failure risk of approximately one year in two". The area is described in the report as semi-arid. To the untutored eye it looks green and fertile, but its river runs for only part of the year. Describing its prospects as a resettlment site, the report added that "potential productivity is low for rain-fed agriculture, but the suitability for irrigation is classified as high to very high".

Standing on a hill overlooking the long valley of thriving bush last week, Mr Cosgrave said: "Irrigation is not economic for subsistence farming, or even for maize. To do it properly the area would have to be surveyed and levelled, which involves heavy engineering. So the plan is to take these 16,000 hectares and put 70,000 people on them.

"The difficulty is that, when agriculture depends on rain in areas like this, the average family needs between 2½ and four hectares each because a fallow system must be used.

"On that basis this valley could support 20,000 people. They want to put 50,000 more here. Yet how can you object when the alternative is for them to stay in camps?"

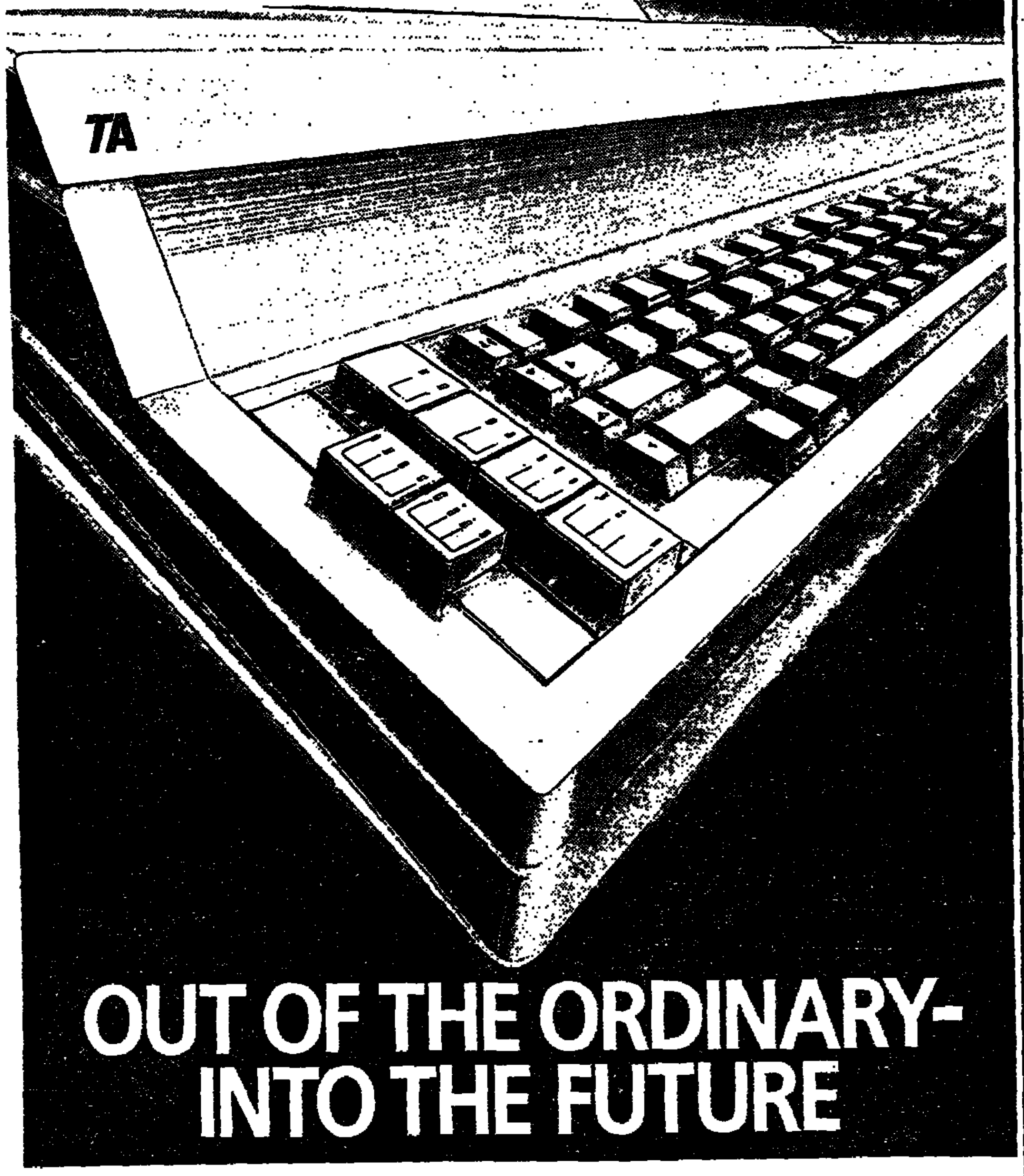
The refugees are unable to return to their homes because fighting continues there between the Government and the rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance.

But if Mr Cosgrave sees that trouble is being stored up for the future, he is doing his best to ameliorate the problem. LWF has a long-term programme to dig 1,000 wells in Tete and is now shifting all its attention to the resettlement areas.

The programme, which will spend $1 million (£602,000) over two years, is designed to train local people to dig the wells and drill the boreholes. "We want to be able to leave the skills behind when we have gone, so I just do the logistics and leave the actual job to them in the main," he said.

But even though local people provide the labour, the project depends on importing equipment, much of it British, and this is subject to long delays, most of them involved with getting the gear from the port at Beira to the drilling sites.

The war has its effect on his personnel, too, he said. "At the moment I am trying hard to get the workmen exempted from military service. In 1985 we lost 10 of the 16 we had trained when they fled to avoid conscription. In 1986 we lost six more. There are problems enough without that."



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Moscow queues for Western lunches

Suckling pig served with a smile

**From Christopher Walker
Moscow**

With a menu which included succulent roasted suckling pig and standards of service previously unknown in the Soviet capital, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov's attempt to revolutionize public eating in Moscow got off to a triumphant, if delayed, start yesterday with the opening of its first co-operative café.

Styled along the lines of a Western bistro, complete with black-topped bar, Italian expresso coffee machine and upbeat background music, the cafe at No. 36 Kropotkinskaya Street, was voted an instant success by the hundreds of Russians who queued in melting snow for one of its 50 coveted places.

Although no advance publicity had been given to the day of the venture's opening, by early afternoon the bush telegraph had put the message far and wide and prospective customers were gathering on all sides.

There seemed no chance that all could be accommodated.

It was without doubt the most tangible manifestation yet seen of the battle being waged by Mr Gorbachov to persuade Soviet citizens to take personal responsibility and to improve the lamentable standard of services provided under the communist system.

Explaining how the restaurant and others like it now in the pipeline will work, the official paper *Moskovskaya Pravda* said: "Their menu prices should be no higher than in a state-run restaurant. The café managers will choose their own décor and menu. If they make a loss when they open up, no one is going to bail them out. They will go bankrupt."

> ❝ We are used to cafés where the food is uneatable ❞

One elderly diner with a chest of medals declared that the £2.30 table d'hôte menu was "better than in Paris", while a young language student told the handful of Western reporters who managed to gain early entry: "As Muscovites, we are used to cafés where the food is uneatable and they treat you like dirt. This is something extraordinary."

Perhaps an even more exacting test on the food prepared by the eight-strong co-operative, who work from 7am to 11pm, was provided by the team of five from French television who shared half a suckling pig for a total price of £30.

"By Western standards it was good. By Moscow standards, exceptional," explained M Ulysse Gosset.

Once the home of Prince Trubetskoy, a member of the old Russian aristocracy, the elegant green and white premises have been tastefully renovated and fitted at the cost of £60,000 by the co-operative, who will have to pay their interest-free loan back to the state over a three to five year period.

The café, whose opening was delayed by the bureaucratic resistance which is holding up so many of Mr Gorbachov's most sweeping economic reforms, is intended to provide the experimental model for many others which will be set up in the capital, breaking the long-abused state catering monopoly.

Among those already planned by other co-operative groups are a children's café showing cartoons and a disco bar. Although hard liquor has been banned from the co-operative cafés (it can be served in some state restaurants after 2pm), Mr Andrei Fyodrov, head of the Kropotkinskaya co-operative, told us that he soon hoped to serve wine and to bring in a violinist to play in the evenings.

Soviet eaters enjoying a late lunch yesterday from the à la carte menu, which included veal and beef tongue, as well as vegetables purchased fresh that morning from the city's markets, appeared thrilled by the relative opulence of the café and the care which had obviously been taken with the preparation of the food.

As *Moskovskaya Pravda* pointed out, until now at virtually every Moscow café a common sight is inedible food piled high on plates.

"Visitors to our cafés have a choice", the paper wrote in an article supporting the new co-operative experiment. "They can either stand in line for an hour in order to get a table or they can go home. Many prefer the latter course".

The new co-operative venture – complete with doorman who appears to have been to a charm school entirely unknown to his fellows, who bully customers at all other Moscow eating establishments – promises that breakfasts will be served within 15 minutes, and all other meals in a maximum of 40 minutes.

> ❝ A model for many others in the capital ❞

But, despite the hard-working staff, there seemed little way that queues outside could be cut back until similar ventures open to meet what the first day proved was a very obvious demand.

Pressure for change, page 10

هكذا من الإصل

Kidnappers issue threat to execute a French hostage within 48 hours

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

The challenge to Syrian rule in west Beirut was bound to emerge and it came yesterday in the shape of a Polaroid colour snapshot of a frightened, balding French hostage, attached to a three-page handwritten threat to kill him.

The man was M Jean-louis Normandin, a lighting engineer for the French Antenne-2 television network, kidnapped in west Beirut almost exactly a year ago. The threat to murder him within 48 hours was delivered to a Western news agency in the city and made by the self-styled "Revolutionary Justice Organization", which demanded a "clarification" of French policy on arms sales to Iraq and on French hostages in Lebanon.

It was written on the pages of a children's exercise book, and finished with a polite if ominous paragraph, helpfully labelled "footnote": "kindly distribute to all newspapers and local and international news agencies speedily. The text should be distributed. Lots of thanks — or punishment."

Its real message, however, must have been apparent to the grey-suited Syrian Army brigadier-general who, at the very moment of its delivery, was standing next to a clutch of foreign ambassadors at the home of the Lebanese Interior Minister and encouraging *them to return to west Beirut.*

It was, after all, General Ghazi Kenaan, commander of the 7,500 Syrian soldiers in west Beirut, who was presiding at that cosy little cocktail party, and who has been urging all foreigners to return to the Muslim sector of the capital. For the handwritten notes and the photograph of M Normandin — in a blue and black T-shirt, his hair unkempt and his eyes staring intently into the camera — was the first message that Beirut's kidnappers have dared to send since the Syrian Army entered west Beirut last month.

***Strong concentrations of Israeli troops,* in armoured cars and helicpoters, were reported to have gathered at two points inside the occupation zone in southern Lebanon last night (Robert Fisk writes from Beirut). The deployment near the villages of Rashaf and Kunin came after the death of an Israeli Army captain and the wounding of another soldier in a Lebanese guerrilla ambush early yesterday morning.**

Would the General now move his troops into the Shia Muslim southern suburbs of the city to look for some of the 26 foreign hostages who are believed to be held there? "Everything has its place and time," he told a journalist who asked the same question two days ago. Perhaps, but those 48 hours are likely to impress themselves on the general.

The statement from the kidnappers yesterday demanded that M Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister, should "clarify" a statement by President Mitterrand "concerning the question of the hostages and continuation of military supplies to Iraq. We draw the attention of both Mitterrand and Chirac . . . that the latest developments in this arena — which they somehow helped bring about — will give their men *(sic)* a definite role in transporting a corpse or *corpses with a flood of regret,* sorrow and apologies . . ."

On Tuesday, President Mitterrand recalled that he had said he would reconsider a presidential pardon for Anis Naccache, who was sentenced to life imprisonment in France for the attempted murder of Mr Shahpour Bakhtiar, the Shah of Iran's last Prime Minister. "I said that I would not accord a pardon (to Mr Naccache) unless all of the hostages were turned over. This did not happen."

Of France's supplies of weapons to President Saddam Hussein's regime in Baghdad, President Mitterrand said that his country would "continue to furnish arms to Iraq but is not . . . the enemy of Iran."

This statement appears to have provoked the "Revolutionary Justice Organization" into their latest message. If the French Government did not clarify these remarks within 48 hours, *it said,* "Normandin will be committed to trial and execution."

Israeli university students clashing with police outside government offices in Jerusalem during a demonstration against a proposal by the Government to increase fees. Seven protesters were arrested.

Troubles plague Shamir's spy inquiry

**From Ian Murray
Jerusalem**

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, yesterday appointed a two-man committee to investigate the spy scandal which is seriously straining relations with the United States. But even before the panel starts work it is being branded as a powerless and worthless body.

Moreover, Mr Shamir announced that he will not commit himself to be bound by its conclusions.

The body blow to the committee, however, came from Judge Moshe Landau, the former Supreme Court president who was the first choice of the inner Cabinet to chair the panel. The judge announced yesterday morning that the committee's authority was insufficient for it to carry out its job of finding why and how Jonathan Jay Pollard was recruited to spy for Israel against the US. The committee has been given no powers to subpoena witnesses.

In refusing to serve he was following the example set by Chief Justice Yitzhak Kahan in 1982 who would not join an investigation into the massacres at the Beirut Palestinian refugee camps unless he was given the power to force witnesses to give evidence. On that occasion the Government backed down, but yesterday Mr Shamir cast about for someone else to chair the committee.

A Tel Aviv lawyer, Mr Yohoshua Rotenstreich, who is chairman of the Press Council, accepted. In offering him the job, Mr Shamir avoided the danger that another senior judge would refuse to serve and thus torpedo the whole idea, which was designed to sooth American anger over the Pollard affair. The other member of the committee is to be General Zvi Tsur, a former Chief of Staff.

The Cabinet still has to approve the investigation at its next meeting on Tuesday. Mr Gad Yaacobi, the Economic Minister, has already said that he is not satisfied with what is being proposed and that he will fight for full powers to be given to the inquiry. He can expect support.

There has been only a muted welcome from the US for the inquiry, and yesterday Mr Thomas Pickering, the Ambassador, met Mr Shimon Peres, the Foreign Minister, to explain how bitter Washington was about the affair.

Meanwhile, the special intelligence subcommittee of the Knesset has begun its own inquiry and yesterday took evidence *in camera* for three hours from Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the *Defence Minister.* This panel also does not have power to subpoena witnesses.

Closer ties with Spain pledged by French

**From Harry Debelius
Madrid**

An official visit by President Mitterrand of France and M Jacques Chirac, his Prime Minister, ended here yesterday with promises of closer co-operation in European Community affairs and defence, but with only a passing reference to the important issue of continuing anti-terrorist co-operation between the two countries.

President Mitterrand said agreement was reached on setting up permanent bilateral committees on agriculture and fisheries to solve or head off conflicts between the two countries.

Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, said there was agreement on "the need to mesh our defence systems". He pointed out that the two countries share the use of certain sea areas and have adjoining air space, which requires defence co-operation, and recalled existing projects.

"Terrorism was not on the agenda for this meeting," said Señor González, "but an evaluation of our co-operation was made, and I can tell you one thing: the Council of Europe considers the co-operation between our two countries in anti-terrorist matters to be very positive."

Coinciding with the state visit, the French turned over to Spanish police two members of Eta, the Basque extremist organization. Since *last July 48 suspected* or confirmed Eta members have been expelled from France.

Seven die in campus violence

**From Ahmed Fazl
Dhaka**

Seven people have been killed and more than 500 arrested in university riots in Dhaka and two other cities over the past four days, sparking off fresh opposition demands for President Ershad's five-year-old Government to resign.

Begum Khaleda Zia, chief of the former ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), called for a judicial inquiry into the violence in which more than 1,000 people, including about 30 policemen, have been injured.

"General Ershad has no right to rule the country after the campus deaths," Begum Zia said yesterday.

President Ershad, aged 57, who seized power as army chief in 1982 and returned the country to democracy last November, will be celebrating his five years as President on March 24.

The riots, in which parts of two dormitories were burnt and three others were ransacked, were set off by the death of a BNP student leader and three others, blown up by a bomb in a Dhaka university building.

Opposition parties have blamed the explosion on pro-government students, a charge denied by the authorities.

"The bomb exploded while it was being made by the victims," said the Interior Minister, Mr M.A. Matin.

Police entered the campus on Wednesday, firing tear gas shells, as clashes broke out with a congregation mourning the student leader's death.

At least a dozen buses were burnt and roadblocks were set up. More than 500 policemen were deployed on the campus after the violence.

Police have arrested more than 75 people and launched a drive to recover illegal arms from the campus.

One person died and more than 55 others were wounded, witnesses said, when police countered street violence during a protest strike by students in Chittagong, 150 miles south-east of Dhaka on Tuesday.

Defecting professor goes home

Bonn — Professor Klaus Hennig, a leading East German scientist who defected to West Germany early last month, has returned to East Germany, it was disclosed yesterday (John England writes).

Die Welt said Professor Hennig, aged 52, who was head of the Institute for Mechanics at the East German Academy of Sciences in Karl Marx Stadt, formerly Chemnitz, had accepted a guarantee from East Berlin that he would not be punished for his flight to the West.

Decision time

Lance Corporal Andrew Redman, of REME, has been given two weeks by a Kenyan judge to agree compensation with a man whose nose he is alleged to have broken, or risk imprisonment or caning.

Drugs haul

Madrid (Reuter) — Police have netted heroin with a market value of about £485 million in Madrid in Spain's biggest-ever drug haul, and arrested three Spaniards.

Chess rest

Linares (Reuter) — Andrei Sokolov of the Soviet Union, trailing badly in his world chess title eliminator against the former world champion, Anatoly Karpov, called a rest day with Karpov leading the 14-game series by 4½ to 2½ at the halfway point.

Up the Pole

Ward Hunt Island, Canada (Reuter) — Ms Pam Flowers, a diminutive 40-year-old American, accompanied only by eight sledge dogs, has set out from this remote Canadian outpost across the Arctic ice, aiming to become the first woman to reach the North Pole by land.

Wet blanket

Colombo (AP) — Colombo's water shortage failed to prevent the fire department from pouring 5,000 gallons of cold water on dozens of lovers in a city park to discourage "nefarious activities" in the bushes.

Liberals given another post in Bonn Cabinet

From John England, Bonn

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's new Cabinet, including two new ministers following a minor reshuffle, was sworn in yesterday following his narrow re-election as government leader by the Bonn Parliament on Wednesday.

Herr Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) have nine ministers in the new Cabinet, one fewer than in the old one. Their partners, Bavarian Christian Social Union (CSU), remain unchanged with five. The Free Democrats (FDP) now have four portfolios compared with three in the last Cabinet, following their good showing in the federal election in January.

The Cabinet is: **Chancellor,** Herr Helmut Kohl (CDU): **Foreign,** Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher (FDP): **Interior,** Herr Friedrich Zimmermann (CSU): **Justice,** Herr Hans Engelhard (FDP): **Finance,** Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg (CDU): **Economics,** Herr Martin Bangemann (FDP): **Agriculture,** Herr Ignaz Kiechle (CSU): **Inner-German Relations,** Frau Dorothee Wilms (CDU): **Labour,** Herr Norbert Blüm (CDU): **Defence,** Herr Manfred Wörner (CDU): **Youth, Families, Women and Health,** Frau Rita Süssmuth (CDU): **Transport,** Herr Jürgen Warnke (CSU): **Posts,** Herr Christian Schwarz-Schilling (CDU): **Building,** Herr Oscar Schneider (CSU): **Research,** Herr Heinz Riesenhuber (CDU): **Education,** Herr Jürgen Möllemann (FDP): **Development Aid,** Herr Hans Klein (CSU): **Environment,** Herr Walter Wallmann (CDU): **Special Projects,** Herr Wolfgang Schäuble (CDU).

● **East-West relations:** The East German leader, Herr Erich Honecker, yesterday said he expects many indications from Chancellor Kohl that relations between their two states could be expanded.

The Prime Minister of Saarland, Herr Oskar Lafontaine, said he believed relations between East and West Germany were in a phase of normalization and there was goodwill on both sides towards further progress.

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Congress uses threat to cut foreign aid in US budget dispute

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Leading congressional officials said this week that the United States commitment to foreign aid projects faces unprecedented cuts this year, given budget constraints and the Administration's failure to lobby actively for funds.

Mr Dave Obey, chairman of the House appropriations committee, which oversees foreign aid, said that the cuts could alter dramatically the traditional US role as a superpower committed to development aid and security assistance for the rest of the world.

Mr Obey told a congressional hearing attended by Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and other officials that Congress would not approve the $19 billion (£12 billion) in foreign aid sought by the Administration unless the White House moderated its stance on the US budget deficit.

This would mean that US commitments to the World Bank, the international development banks, the poorest nations in sub-Saharan Africa, Central America, Radio Free Europe, the Voice of America and other programmes would be cut dramatically, Mr Obey said.

"Anybody who thinks we can cut $62 billion out of the fiscal 1988 budget and, at the same time, add money to the appropriations for the World Bank and foreign aid programmes is a damn fool," Mr Obey said.

Also caught up in the struggle between the Administration and Congress over the budget is a $1.3 billion supplemental request for money to reverse the sharp decreases in US funding for foreign aid projects which has already occurred over the past two years.

Specifically, the Administration wants Congress to approve the additional money to allow the United States to meet its commitment to providing increased funds for the International Development Agency (IDA), which aids the poorest Third World nations.

The United States joined 34 other donor nations in agreeing to provide additional funds over a three-year period, but Congress last year appropriated only $622 million of the annual $750 million committed by the Reagan Administration as the US share.

This year the Administration is seeking $958 million from Congress to make up the difference.

Mr Obey said: "Mr Shultz has been telling us that the Administration's foreign aid budget needs to be passed because this is a great country and we need to defend our interests around the world. I agree with that. The problem is the Administration wants to play its rightful role but is not willing to pay for it."

Democratic leaders who control both houses of Congress discussed the appropriations battle and concluded that unless President Reagan agrees to a revenue increase in the new budget, foreign aid will be slashed dramatically.

In addition, Democrats are urging the President to relax his insistence that the fiscal deficit be reduced by $62 billion this year to meet the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings targets through domestic spending cuts.

Democrats want the President to accept cuts of only $36 billion along with a tax increase, to produce a budget that would minimize domestic cuts and allow for essential foreign aid programmes to go forward.

Sir Henry Plumb, the president of the European Parliament, on his bike for yesterday's Strasbourg debate on bicycle use in Europe. Sir Henry, aged 62, gave his chauffeur the morning off and pedalled just over a mile from his hotel to the parliament building, where a plenary session is taking place this week (Reuter reports from Strasbourg).

A member of Sir Henry's staff said his gesture was meant to express solidarity with all EEC citizens who make their daily journeys to work on a bicycle. He was accompanied by the Dutch Liberal member, Mr Florus Wijsenbeek, who is proposing a resolution calling for a better deal for cyclists, including the building of more cycle tracks in urban areas.

Ill Hess fails to recognize his son

West Berlin (Reuter) – Adolf Hitler's former deputy, Rudolf Hess, is so ill he did not recognize his son when he visited him in the West Berlin British Military Hospital.

Hess, aged 92, was moved into hospital from Spandau prison earlier this month. Herr Wolf-Rüdiger Hess said his father, held in the prison under a four-power Allied guard since 1947, is disoriented and seriously ill.

The son said that when he visited the hospital yesterday morning his father "just laughed and said he didn't know me". He added: "He seemed very disoriented . . . I am of the opinion that he is in a very serious condition."

Earlier this week, Allied spokesmen said he had improved since he was taken to hospital on March 1. Herr Hess said his father had been treated for pneumonia in one lung. Hess, the only known survivor of Hitler's inner Nazi leadership, was jailed for life despite Soviet demands that he be executed.

Pressure for change in East Europe

Czechoslovak Catholics pray under gaze of secret police

From Richard Bassett, Prague

At the mediaeval Tyn church, ice floats in the bowls of holy water. In the darkest but grandest of Prague's many black-towered churches, Mass is said in near-Arctic conditions.

Despite the cold, an icy 16 C below freezing at 9.30 pm, the church is packed. The authorities permit only one Mass a week here, and as the temperature and layers of dust coating the marble tombs make clear, no one is encouraged to worship here.

That they do so is partly because the priest, an old, grey-haired man, is not a member of the state religious organization, Pacem in Terris, the body through which the state tries to control the activities of Catholics in Czechoslovakia.

Relations between the church and state are the worst of any of the Eastern bloc countries. Monastic orders are banned; religious books are rarely available in libraries, and those who take their Catholicism seriously enough to regularly visit a church risk demotion at work, interrogation and even imprisonment.

"Like Early Christians in the catacombs, we must go underground to preserve our faith," the beleaguered but resilient Primate of Czechoslovakia, Cardinal Frantisek Tomasek, told *The Times* yesterday.

The cardinal, who has a sprightliness which belies his 88 years, has fought the Czechoslovak Government for more than 30 years. In many ways a prisoner in his baroque palace next to the Hradcany Castle offices of the President, he wages a ceaseless battle on behalf of the 70 per cent of his country's population who are Catholics.

Though often prohibited from travelling abroad, he has remained unyielding in his defence of Catholics.

"This is the only communist country in which 10 dioceses remain vacant. They have been vacant for more than 20 years, even though the Pope has recommended names for bishops time and again. A diocese without a bishop is a body without a head," the cardinal says.

Cardinal Tomasek

❛ Like Early Christians in the catacombs, we must go underground ❜

Despite these problems, the popularity of the Catholic Church among young Czechs and Slovaks is rapidly growing. Despite the intimidation, more and more young people ask to be admitted into the Catholic Church every year.

At the Tyn church, the congregation is young as well as devout to the point of fervour. One girl was prevented from studying geography for three years on account of her Catholicism. Another, a trained teacher, has found it impossible to find a job for the past year. Others tell of sudden drops in their wages, and chances of promotion lost once it has become known they are practising Catholics.

All, however, enjoy the unique camaraderie which is the only prerogative of a persecuted fraternity. After Mass, they gather around the door of the church, happy faces smiling under the gaslight.

Their contentment is not even disturbed by the presence of someone who is as regular a sight at these services as the aged priest. This man however, has not come to pray. Sometimes he is dressed in a leather jacket, sometimes in a fur coat; always he carries the small black radio bag which in this city is the hallmark of the secret police.

He never smiles as he makes careful notes of those who take a Communion he never touches. But as in many other things in Prague these days, there are also hints that the state's attitude towards the Catholic Church may be about to change as well.

This autumn sees the canonization of Bohemia's Holy Agnes. Cardinal Tomasek is confident that his negotiations with the Government for a papal visit about that time or in the near future will be successful.

"There have been small hints of change in recent months," the cardinal admits, "but those who have persecuted us and still oppose us will fight tooth and nail to resist this change taking place."

British musicians back Jazz Section

From Our Correspondent, Prague

Members of the disbanded Czechoslovak Jazz Section expressed their determination yesterday to campaign for the release of their chairman, Mr Karel Srp, and his colleague, Mr Vladimir Kouril, who were sentenced to 16 and 10 months' imprisonment respectively on Wednesday by a Prague court.

Though the sentences were considered to be surprisingly lenient by many, in view of the displeasure with which the Czechoslovakian Government has regarded the section's activities, members of the section were unanimous in condemning the sentences.

"Our first priority is to get these two men out of jail," a spokesman told journalists.

The section's members have received warm support from three British musicians: the composers Michael Berkeley and Nigel Osborne, and the president of the International Jazz Federation, Mr Charles Alexander.

All three expressed their support to the section's members at a secret meeting late on Wednesday night. Mr Berkeley said: "British musicians are not disappointed, they are outraged at this trial. We feel that it is appalling that just as things are beginning to get better in the world of the arts, musicians should be sent to jail on these charges.

"If this continues, British musicians will have to search their consciences very deeply before contemplating a visit to a country where people are imprisoned for doing what other people do every day.

"Despite the decision of the Czechoslovak Government, the Czechoslovak Jazz Section remains a valid member of the International Jazz Federation," he said to applause.

During the next week, in accordance with Czechoslovak law, appeals will be lodged against the sentences, but members of the section appared to be split yesterday as to how best to continue their activities in the immediate future. Some favour regrouping and working for legal recognition by the authorities; others prefer to pursue their activities underground in a more fragmentary way.

The unashamed filming of all those who came to support the accused at this week's trial powerfully suggests that those who choose the latter course will continue to run risks. Irrespective of any changes in the Czechoslovak Government's thinking, they will have to live for the immediate future with the surveillance of that thin, pale cameraman and his plain clothes police colleagues.

Hungary presses ahead with market reforms

From Andrew McEwen, Budapest

Sir Geoffrey Howe's visit to Budapest this week left some older Communists wondering whether their country had changed colour under their noses.

The Foreign Secretary caused a stir with his speech suggesting that Eastern bloc countries could adopt economic policies based on market forces and still call themselves socialists.

Sir Geoffrey said that the role of the market was not "incompatible with a socialist vision of society — not, at least, if socialism is appropriately defined".

One retired teacher, surveying 19 years of change which has earned Hungary's system the name "goulash communism" said: "We have been applying exactly that assumption without adequately questioning it".

But a much more positive reaction has come from the men, mostly 10 to 20 years younger, who now advise Mr Janos Kadar, Hungary's 74-year-old leader.

One of them, Mr Matyas Szuros, who Western diplomats in Budapest see as the principal architect of Hungary's foreign policy based on the idea that small nations can play a moderating role between superpowers, told *The Times* that he agreed with Sir Geoffrey, and said Hungary would continue its reforms.

"Starting from 1988, we shall introduce Value Added Tax and a system of taxation of personal incomes," he said.

Hungary would also take further steps to allow wages and salaries to reflect performance, while other measures would continue the restructuring of the labour force and closure of unprofitable enterprises.

Hungary's private sector is expanding, with 450,000 people working for 35,000 businesses, fuelled by loans from commercial banks.

Mr Szuros said that Hungary also planned to press ahead with social reforms and modernization of political institutions.

Welcoming the Soviet reforms, he rejected Western comments that Hungary was less than enthusiastic.

Mr Szuros took an uncompromising line on suggestions that the closure of a literary review and the banning of the works of a playwright amounted to breaches of Hungary's obligation under the 1975 Helsinki Final Act.

Despite this, feelings ran high among the 612 members of the Hungarian Writers' Union following the banning measures. At their annual convention they voted all the Communists off the board.

This produced a counter-reaction: 27 writers resigned and formed a separate association.

Mr Szuros said: "I do not consider what happened in the Hungarian Writers' Union as a scandal. Our general policy is to proceed towards greater democracy and openness.

"I think we still have a lot to learn in the field of democracy, but it is our conviction that there is no genuine socialism without genuine democracy."

"Liberal" realities, page 18

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Shevardnadze tour highlights complexity of South-East Asia's problems

Vietnamese use Soviet visit to propose talks on Cambodia

From David Watts, Tokyo

Vietnam is to seek talks with both China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) on a political solution to the war in Cambodia.

The announcement was made by Mr Nguyen Co Thach, the Vietnamese Foreign Minister, at a dinner to mark the close of a tour of Asia by his Soviet counterpart, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze.

Mr Co Thach said he wanted to open negotiations "on the principles of equality, territorial integrity and mutual understanding" to establish a zone of peace, stability and friendly co-operation in South-East Asia.

Mr Shevardnadze: trying to win friends for Moscow

The idea is akin to the concept of a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality which has been promoted by Indonesia and Malaysia for some years, but the Vietnamese offer is not likely to come without conditions.

Principal of these will most likely be willingness to accept the Heng Samrin Government in Phnom Penh, which was installed by Vietnamese troops in early 1979. There have been regular hints of some role for Prince Norodom Sihanouk in a Cambodian government and recently the Indians, who recognize the Heng Samrin Government, have offered themselves as go-betweens.

Earlier on his visit to Vietnam, Mr Shevardnadze called for better relations between both the Vietnamese and Soviet governments and China. That has been an important theme of his six-nation tour which included Australia, Indonesia, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam.

The plan for a more friendly Soviet face in Asia was first outlined in a speech in July last year by Mr Mikhail Gorbachov. But Mr Shevardnadze's promotion of that theme and his declarations of peaceful intent in the South Pacific, where the Soviet Union has been expanding relations with the small states of Oceania, met a rather sceptical response in Australia. In Indonesia there was disappointment that the Soviet Union had nothing concrete to offer on the future of the Cambodian war.

The cornerstone of Mr Gorbachov's Asian policy is a better relationship with China which in turn is dependent on the removal of 140,000 Vietnamese troops from Cambodia.

In Jakarta, Bangkok and Vientiane, the Soviet minister talked of peace but had little specific to offer on Cambodia except that "some aspects" of any formula for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan might be applicable in Phnom Penh.

Symbolically, he started his visit to Indochina in Laos, which has improved its touchy relations with Thailand and has also recently played host to a Chinese delegation for the first time for many years.

In Phnom Penh, Mr Shevardnadze had nothing to say in public about the future of Vietnamese troops there, who are supposed to be withdrawn by 1990. But in Hanoi he and Mr Co Thach spoke of their relationship entering a "new stage" and of the renovation of the Moscow-Hanoi partnership after the announcement of the new leadership at the sixth congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam earlier this year.

Violent life of refugees on the border

By Caroline Moorehead

Life for the 250,000 Cambodians in the closed camps along the Thai border is becoming increasingly violent and unbearable, according to a social anthropologist working for the Refugee Studies Programme in Oxford.

Dr Josephine Reynell, who spent seven weeks last summer and much of December visiting some of the eight camps, has now written a report.

In it, she describes women repeatedly raped by the armed Thai Ranger guards, growing violence within families and towards children, and a pervasive sense of hopelessness about the future.

The Cambodians fled to the border with Thailand on Christmas Day, 1979, when the Vietnamese invaded, defeating the Khmer Rouge and ending the four-year Pol Pot regime.

Seven years later they are still there, living on emergency food rations of rice and canned and smoked fish handed out by the United Nations.

Each of the eight camps, stretched out over an area of 450 miles, is run by one of three factions — the Khmer Rouge, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and the followers of Prince Sihanouk.

> 6 Children imagine that food comes in plastic bags on trucks 9

All of them have military bases not far away and are trying to regain control of Cambodia from the Vietnamese-backed Government in Phnom Penh.

Of these, the Khmer Rouge has the strongest military presence and one of the worst human rights records in history.

Only one of its camps is open to aid officials, so no one even knows whether the food is reaching the women and children for whom it is intended.

The border refugees, caught in the crossfire of the war and constantly menaced by fresh Vietnamese offensives, have moved several times.

Since the Thai Government insists that they are "displaced people" and not "refugees", they have none of the possibilities of resettlement they would otherwise have.

Rations of fish being distributed in a Khmer Rouge camp near the Thai border, where Cambodian refugees are living in conditions of increasing violence and desperation.

Though aid workers recognize that the United Nations Border Relief Operation has done much to improve the camps since the chaos of the early 1980s, they say that life within them is extremely unpleasant, particularly for single women, the elderly and orphans.

There are reports of women being raped by drunken soldiers on leave or by Thai guards, and many are said to have taken to prostitution as a way of supporting their young children.

The level of other types of violence has also grown, with increasing robberies and fights between neighbours.

Men trying to leave the camps in search of work or food without paying the guards the accepted bribes are frequently beaten up.

According to Dr Reynell, there are some 150,000 children under the age of 15 in the camps. About half of them are under five and have never known life outside.

As Mr Tony Jackson, a British aid expert who visited the camps not long ago points out, children living in such an artificial environment might well grow up imagining that "food comes in plastic bags on trucks, that war is a normal way of life and that their only option as adults is to fight in the resistance".

Education in the camps is restricted to primary teaching, Thailand insisting that, since the camps are a temporary phenomenon, there is no need for secondary schooling.

Just the same, only the richest families can afford to send their children to the fee-paying classes.

Many small boys and girls are to be seen spending their days fetching water, looking for tiny pieces of firewood or collecting rations.

For the adults there is often nothing whatever to do; 64 per cent of the people in Camp Site 8 told Dr Reynell that they were without employment of any kind.

For most boys over 17 there is in any case no escaping the forced drafting into the resistance army, which considers these camps a natural recruiting ground.

Refusal to join, or even criticism of the army, can lead to jail.

Some young boys, protesting that they had no faith in anything the resistance could achieve, are known to have "disappeared".

Worst, perhaps, is the state of anxiety in which most of the refugees now live.

Because of the overcrowding, the violence, the poor soil which means that nothing can be grown to supplement the handout of rations, so that the camps have become like urban slums, people spoke to Dr Reynell of being "chickens in a cage".

"They live in fear," she says. "They pack their bags every night in case the camp should be shelled by the Vietnamese.

> 6 They pack their bags every night in case the camp is shelled 9

"They have been here seven years and they see nothing being done about their future."

There have been virtually no attempts to negotiate a settlement with the Vietnamese-backed Government in Phnom Penh which, unlike the "Democratic Kampuchea" coalition, is not recognized by the United Nations or by most Western governments.

"In essence," says Dr Reynell, "these people are political pawns in a conflict serving superpower interests as well as regional ones."

Her fear is that, as a new generation of young Cambodians are recruited into the resistance army, and the camps come to be places of abject poverty, another Palestinian situation will gradually build up unless serious attempts are soon made to find a diplomatic solution.

Trade is priority for Thai leader

By Nicholas Beeston

The Thai Prime Minister, General Prem Tinsulanonda, arrived in London yesterday on a five-day private working visit during which he will meet Mrs Thatcher and try to boost British trade with Thailand.

He was met on arrival by the Minister of State at the Foreign Office, Mr Timothy Renton, and was due to hold talks in the evening with Mrs Thatcher.

The two leaders were expected to discuss a number of South-East Asian regional issues, including the problem of Cambodian refugees in Thailand and moves in the region to end Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia.

The Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, was due to meet his Thai counterpart, Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila, to discuss Sir Geoffrey's visit to Bangkok on April 21 and 22.

● **BANGKOK:** General Prem has governed almost as long as Mrs Thatcher. His seven years in office are a record for an elected Government leader and, remarkably in a country that has had 15 Army rebellions against legal Governments in 55 years, he will probably go on for some time yet (Neil Kelly writes).

The main focus of his visit is on economic and business affairs. General Prem is too shy and modest a man to be a great public speaker, but those hearing him address the London Chamber of Commerce today will nevertheless find he has an exciting success story to tell about Thailand's economic progress and political stability.

He is using the visit to promote the establishment of the Thailand Fund on the London Stock Exchange. The British Ambasssador to Thailand, Mr Derek Tonkin, says the unit trust made up of Thai company shares traded on the Bangkok exchange will encourage investment by Britain and others in Thailand's "promising future".

Thailand's foreign exchange reserves now exceed US$4 billion (£2.5 billion) for the first time.

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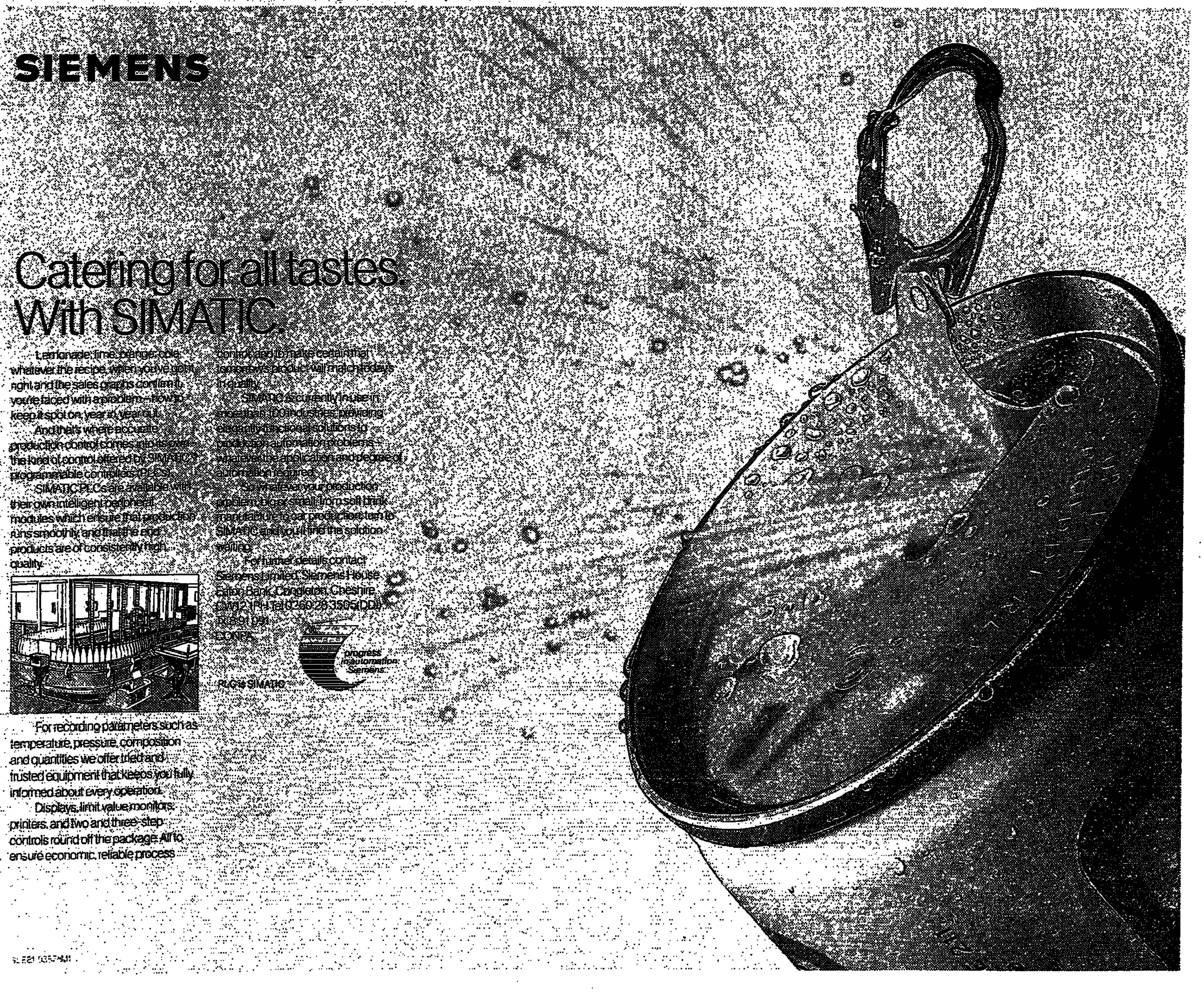

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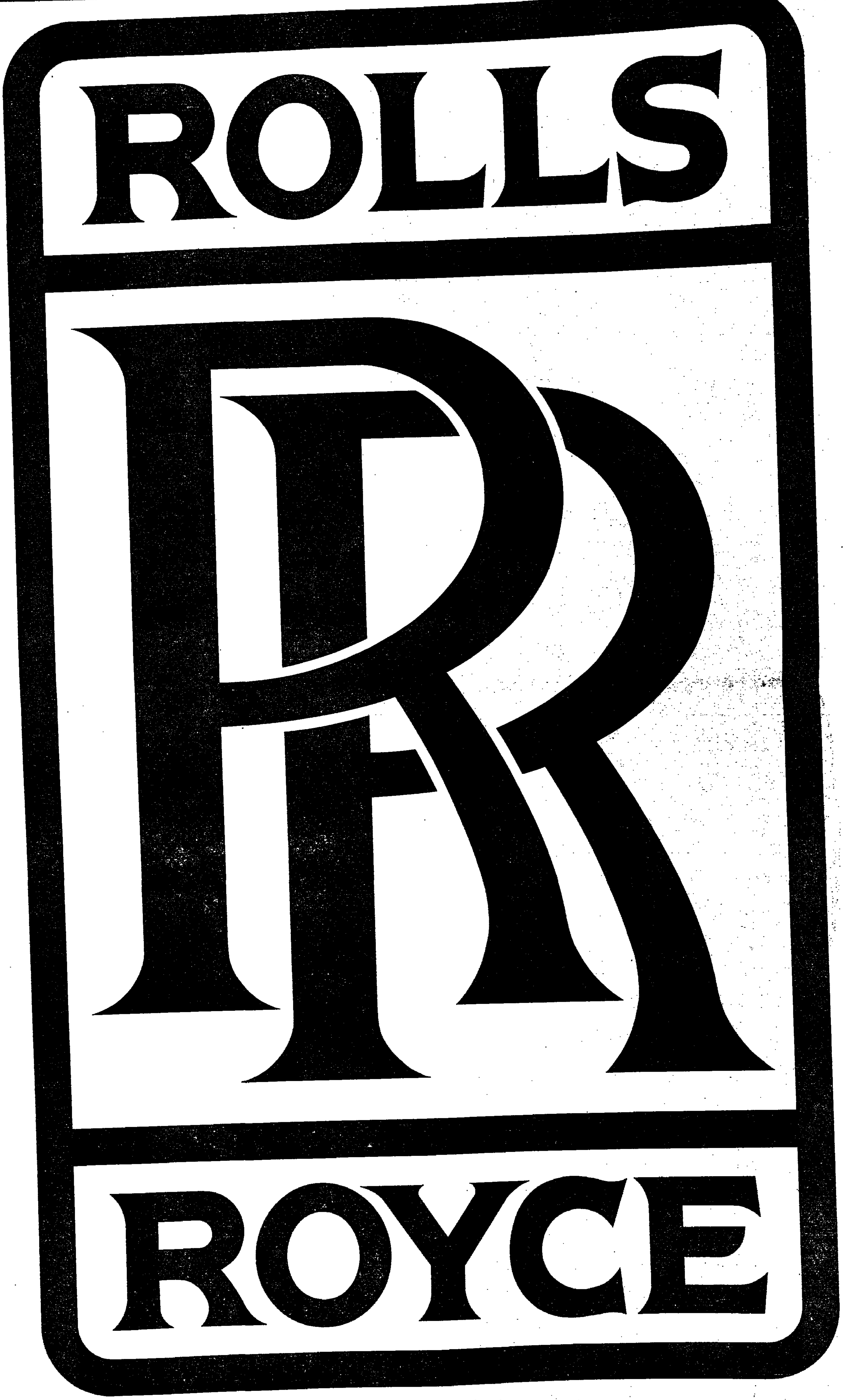
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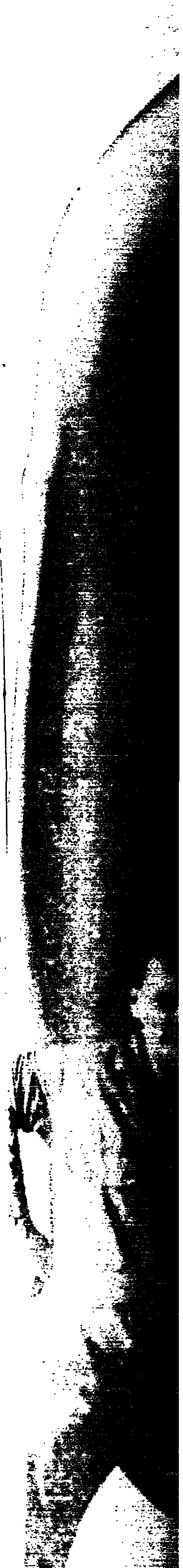

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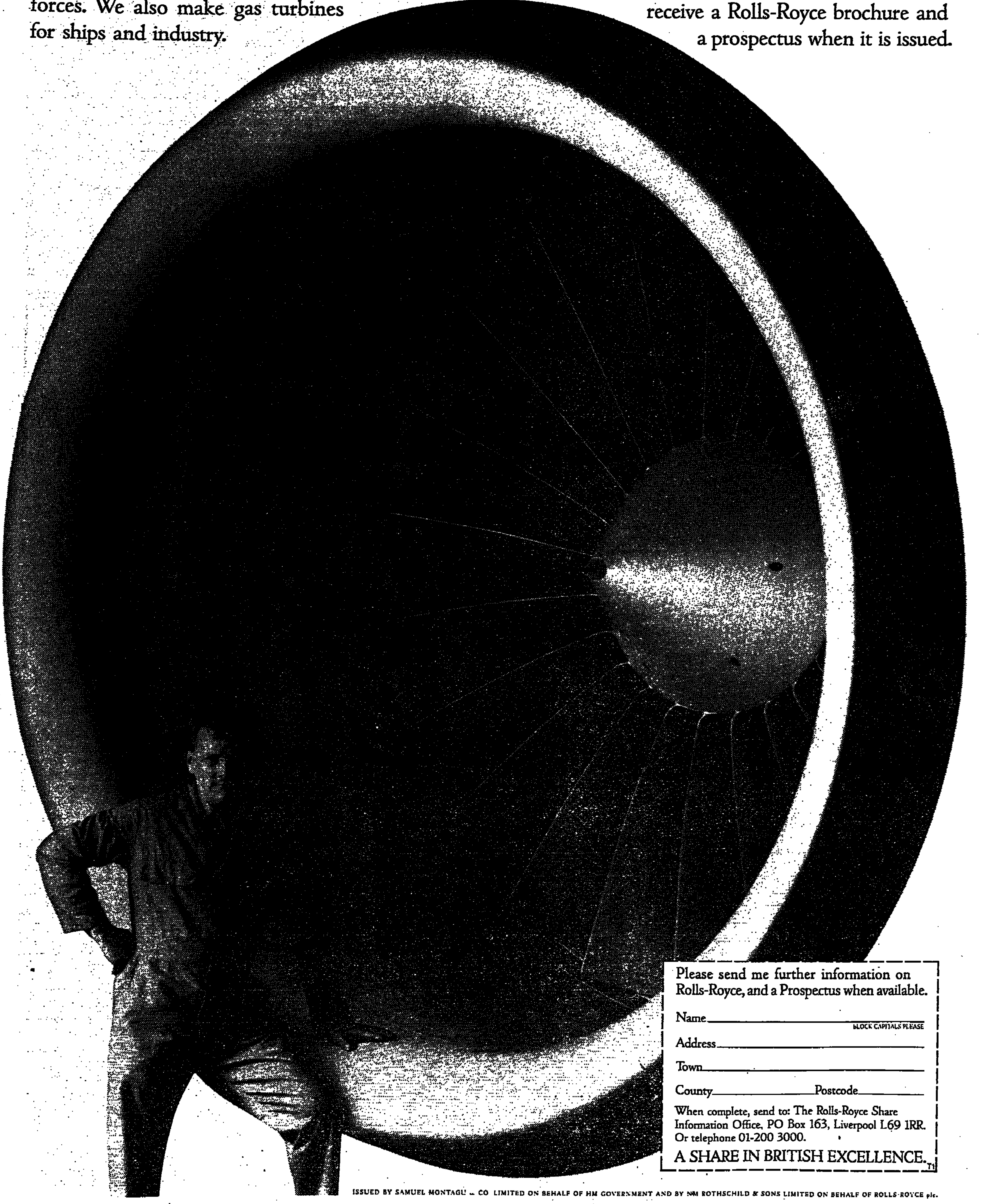

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How fares the brave new town?

Photographs by Nick Rogers

The Treasury said it would never be built, but to London's East Enders, ravaged by the Blitz, it was a green godsend. In the month of its fortieth birthday, Brian James tests the mood of Harlow, the first New Town, and finds a paradox

Let this man describe his town: it lies in a green valley beside a stream, and on every ridgeline there are trees and farms. In squares and spaces stand statues by Henry Moore, Rodin, Hepworth. It has a live theatre and its parks stage live music. Free.

Here the crime rate is low — say, one bag-snatch a month. Here the unemployed never number more than 10 per cent and much of the work now is in the electronic industries of the Eighties, for which the town is well-placed. Housing for rent, while scarce, is affordable and much of it won international awards for its design.

Every leisure-time whim is catered for, with 400 clubs and societies. It has a famous sports centre, an Olympic pool, a golf course, a centre for outdoor pursuits and a nature reserve. Oh, yes, and a ski slope. There are two motorways within minutes, an international airport within 12 miles.

"No, we don't say it is paradise," Harry Platt said. "But does it not sound the sort of place where anyone would be happy to live?" And, given that description, would anyone guess a New Town? Would anyone guess *Harlow?*

Platt's enthusiasm is understandable. He is the general manager of the place. Yet it scarcely exceeds that of those who built the town. "Harlow," one of them said, "was a beacon . . . the start of a brave new world . . . a town fit for heroes. At least, that's what we set out to achieve when we turned the first turf."

That first turf was uprooted in 1947. Soon Harlow, the first of the new towns with which Britain began to repair the ravages of the Blitz, will begin celebrating its fortieth birthday. Self-congratulation will set the streets awash, and much of it will be deserved.

Here they designed a town, rather than merely planned it: its visionary, the late Sir Freddie Gibberd, walked the fields for weeks before laying out its streets and homes to preserve the hummocks, valleys and copses. Here were built Britain's first neighbourhood health centres, Britain's first ready-to-rent standardized factories, Britain's first integrated homes for the elderly, Britain's first sports centre.

All that achievement has to be set, too, against the remark in his later years of Lew Silkin, Minister of Town and Country Planning in the 1945 Attlee government, that the only way he got the New Town scheme through Cabinet was that the Treasury were convinced it would never cost a penny — because this "socialist pipe dream" would never be built.

But for every voice raised in praise at birthday parties, there will be another somewhere in the background, booing. Harlow is a town that prompts fierce reaction. It did so at the beginning from the Essex folk up on those ridgelines, gazing down on refugees from east London slums now placed in their Tory midst with all the neighbourly warmth with which the Iceni used to spy on Roman encampments hereabouts.

Forty years have made these neighbours no more fond. Especially now that Harlow is run by a hard-left council preoccupied by the ritual renaming of streets after foreign freedom fighters, banning the playing of the national anthem in its parks and organizing bus outings of the unemployed to bolster picket lines at distant and irrelevant disputes.

But most criticism of Harlow has nothing to do with politics. It is aimed rather at the mood of the town, and especially a perception of its people, in their small, neat and varied houses. Harlow is felt to be boring.

Which much wounds men like Ben Hyde Harvey. Now 78, he was finance officer when Harlow was launched, and later the Development Corporation's longest-serving chief executive: the shopping complex is named after him. It was he who made that remark about Harlow being a beacon for a brave new world.

"We all jumped at the chance to be involved," he says. "I had been in charge of civil defence in an east London borough, had seen what people suffered. This was the chance to make it up to them. Marvellous place to be, because of the frontier spirit.

"It was truly that in the first years. Harlow was a prairie of mud, the prams were like covered wagons drawn up around the few shops. But the people were super. We were building them this green city they have now — it was going to be a marvellous place to bring up their kids, so they endured. And they contributed. They made their own entertainment, shared their interests.

"We were wrong in some things. This was to have been a town where people walked or cycled to work. We allowed for one car for three families. But no one in 1947 dreamt it would be like now — sometimes three cars per house, clogging the streets.

"We were right in other decisions. Bringing in dozens of different firms of architects to give us every conceiveable sort of housing. We were lucky in others: we didn't want homes for grannies at first. We gave in and it became one of the best things we ever did . . . fitting in those little blocks on the corners imported not only baby-sitters and part-time workers for the community, it imported wisdom.

"Luckiest of all, though, were the people we attracted. Britain's mistake was not setting up idealistic and practical development corporations like ours to rebuild the inner cities. We took all the best people, left them with the worst. Today's inner-city problems began then."

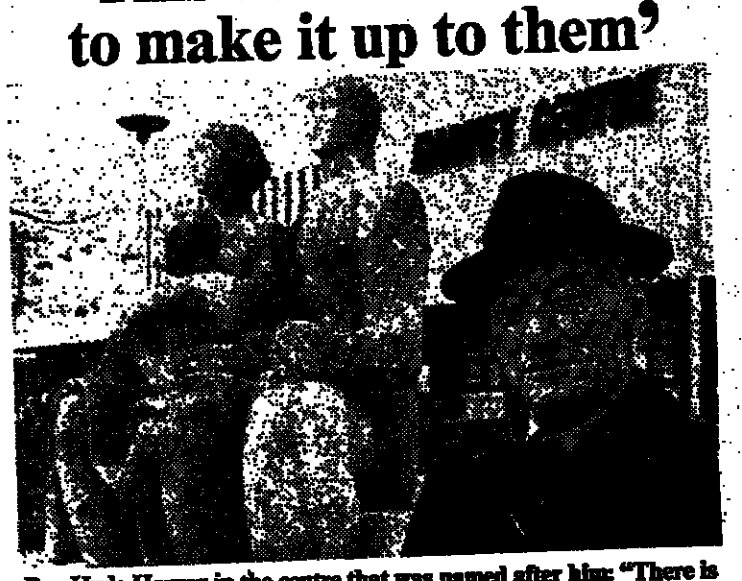
And Harlow today? "Those pioneers have all gone. Now I'm afraid it has become just another place to live, a normal town that used to be special. But no, not boring as so many critics say. There is little in this life to do that cannot be done in Harlow."

That is the view, too, of Harry Platt. "I know outsiders don't like us. They see the sameness, the newness of the place and make their judgement. But it is a town of high standards of living and high expectations.

"We are a success. If we get the 5,000 extra homes we need" — twice again this year Harlow goes to public inquiry to get permission to expand — "we can stabilize our population at 80,000, with homes at last for the youngsters waiting to marry.

"Harlow has survived cutbacks and swings, changes of fashion and of governments. Some things have not worked. The idea of a self-contained living-and-working town" — 30 per cent of Harlow workers commute to London, while 30 per cent of the town's labour travels from without. "The idea of managers and workers living side by side has not succceeded. There are good homes in Harlow. But a posh part to the town? No, we certainly wouldn't want that."

'I'd seen people suffer. This was the chance to make it up to them'



Ben Hyde Harvey in the centre that was named after him: "There is little in this life to do that cannot be done in Harlow."

The sentiment might well lie at the heart of Harlow thinking and thus, perhaps, of outsiders' dislike of the place. They avoided uniformity in the place, but perhaps not in the people. Standing around its shopping mall can be chilling. There is a uniformity in dress, in speech, in first names (Wayne and Tracey are legion) and a chain-store stylessness about the shops.

Harlow people seem content with their town's contradictions. Every approach road is part-barred by signs welcoming you to a nuclear-free zone; yet much of its prosperity rests on the defence contracts of its new industries. Harlow town councils are always hard left, yet its current MP is a Tory, Jerry Hayes. The theory goes that he was swept in by a community greedily keen to cash in on the Thatcherite promise of right-to-buy, despite having also elected a council bitterly oppposed to their sale. Now more than a third of Harlow's 25,000 homes are owner-occupied.

There are indeed Rodin statues in the town squares, yet they say they have to catch rain in buckets in the hideous town hall. The average rent is only £14.50, Harry Platt says. But the town's rent and rate debt is among the highest in the land, Terry Hayes says. The care given to the disabled, the disadvantaged, the elderly is outstanding. But an elderly widow (perhaps one of the 200 of the first 1,000 families still resident 40 years on) is mindless with worry over a £1,500 rates bill for her large bungalow.

Seeking a grip on the spirit of Harlow, I asked a long-serving local journalist. "Harlow is my proof that character is more moulded by genetics than environment," he said. Meaning? "Meaning that this is a town of apathetic oicks. They had a mass meeting to discuss the great birthday celebrations. Only 25 turned up."

Let us agree that his is a jaundiced view, though he was not alone in expressing it. Let us agree that with its fields and fresh air, its services, Harlow is holding fast to its founders' belief in a place to bring up healthy children.

Yet I found it depressing that in a town where was created the nation's first sports centre, a town now striped by manicured playing fields, the district council recently found it necessary to appoint a Sports Motivating Officer — to get the 14-year-olds currently riding bikes up and down outside chip shops to take up a sport.

If Harlow was seen 40 years ago as an attempt to knock up a temporal heaven on a truly green and pleasant land, the verdict is that paradise is at least postponed. Before the next attempt we need, perhaps, first to breed the Paradisians.

Day of reckoning

The Greeks have a word for today, but it doesn't have 13 letters, luckily

The dark forces have triumphed again. They have made the thirteenth of the month fall on a Friday — and not only last month, but today and in November, too.

Those who suffer from morbid fear of the number 13 will want to go into hiding, because in any given year the maximum number of Fridays falling on the thirteenth that the sinister forces can serve up is three. There is at least one Friday the thirteenth in every year, but the faint of heart will be spared another triple dose of calendrical evil until 1998.

Even in this seemingly rational age, the number 13 is often avoided in the labelling of high-rise floors and hospital rooms. Superstition undoubtedly contributed to the appeal of the gory cult film *Friday the Thirteenth* and fear of the number 13 can be applied to space technology: when the thirteenth Apollo mission, launched at 1313 hours from pad 39 (the third multiple of 13), had to be aborted on the thirteenth of April 1970, the newspapers were not slow to blame the wicked number.

Triskaidekaphobes, the original Greek for those suffering from the morbid fear of the number 13, can muster ample historical evidence in support of their affliction. Jesus, after all, Jesus was thirteenth at table. But the belief that 13 people cannot dine together at the same table without fatal consequences goes back further than the Last Supper. Some accounts have it that in Norse mythology, the demonic god Loki crashed a dinner party of benevolent deities, making their number 13 and thus causing the death of Balder, the god of light.

The fear of dining 13 at a table has plagued personalities as various as Napoleon, J. Paul Getty, Herbert Hoover and Franklin D. Roosevelt. In Paris, a Quatorzième, or professional fourteenth guest, can be hired on short notice to round out an otherwise ill-fated dinner party.

I TOLD YOU THERE WAS A THIRTEENTH FLOOR!
LIFT

The idea that numbers are not mere instruments of enumeration but are sacred, perfect, friendly, lucky or evil goes back to antiquity. In the sixth century BC, the mathematician Pythagoras made a religion out of numerology. The number 12 represents completeness, as in the 12 months of the year, the 12 signs of the zodiac, the 12 hours of the day, the 12 gods of Olympus; 13 lies just beyond completeness and, hence, is restless to the point of being evil.

Friday the thirteenth is doubly potent because it draws not only on the evil power of the number 13 but on Friday's reputation as a day of bad luck. Since Christ was crucified on a Friday, the day can be seen as a time for endings, not beginnings.

On Friday January 13, 1882, 13 stout-hearted men in New York City, having had enough of this foolishness, dined in room 13 of Knickerbocker Cottage from thirteen minutes past seven until the thirteenth hour. They were the founders of the Thirteen Club.

Having set the club's initiation fee at $1.13, monthly dues at 13 cents and life membership at $13, the members pledged to continue dining together on the thirteenth of every month.

One of the club's finest moments came in 1886 when it persuaded Maria Christina, Queen regent of Spain, to ignore the pleas of her *triskaidekaphobic* ministers and christen her son Alfonso XIII, after his dead father, Alfonso XII (Alfonso later became so unpopular he had to abdicate the throne).

I am hardly impressed by the historical evidence in favour of thirteen's wickedness. After all, for every sinister association of 13 I can cite a good association — for example, the 13 states that formed the Union. I am, however, distressed by the mathematical evidence.

If you were the diabolical number 13, you would want to wreak havoc on the human race as often as possible. Therefore, you would want the thirteenth day of the month to fall on a Friday more often than it falls on any other day — which it does. If you do not believe me, consult the elegant paper "To Prove That the Thirteenth Day of the Month is More Likely to be a Friday Than Any Other Day of The Week", in the *Mathematical Gazette* (volume 53, pages 127-129). It was written by an Eton schoolboy, S.R. Baxter, at the age of 13.

Paul Hoffman

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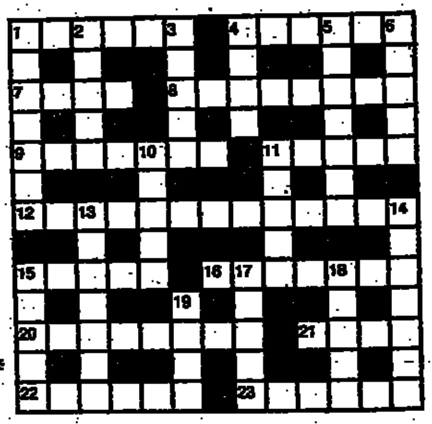

ACROSS
1 Excellent (6)
4 Grand cigar (6)
7 Tumult (4)
8 Snowstorm (8)
9 Put in position (7)
11 Confess (5)
12 Stage fire drop (6,7)
15 Grinding tooth (5)
16 Red pepper (7)
20 Scheming (8)
21 Lift in salutation (4)
22 Actors' walk-off (6)
23 Show(6)

DOWN
1 Narrow sea channels (7)
2 Devout (5)
3 Noisy confusion (5)
4 Acclaim (4)
5 Red blood cell deficiency (7)
6 Accounts check (5)
10 Change (5)
11 Impressive display (5)
13 Excessive (7)
14 Poverty stricken (7)
15 Acer (5)
17 Wrath (5)
18 Halter (5)
19 Clenched hand (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1204
ACROSS: 1 Bantam 4 Sorrow 9 Tornado 10 Taper 11 Chug 12 Dullish 14 Dipsomaniac 18 Villain 19 Easy 22 Lurch 24 Uniform 25 Eldest 26 Cygnet
DOWN: 1 Bite 2 North 3 Analgesia 5 Opt 6 Replica 7 Worthy 8 Condominium 11 Cad 13 Longevity 15 Ill-bred 16 Coy 17 Evolve 20 Scorn 21 Smut 23 Has.

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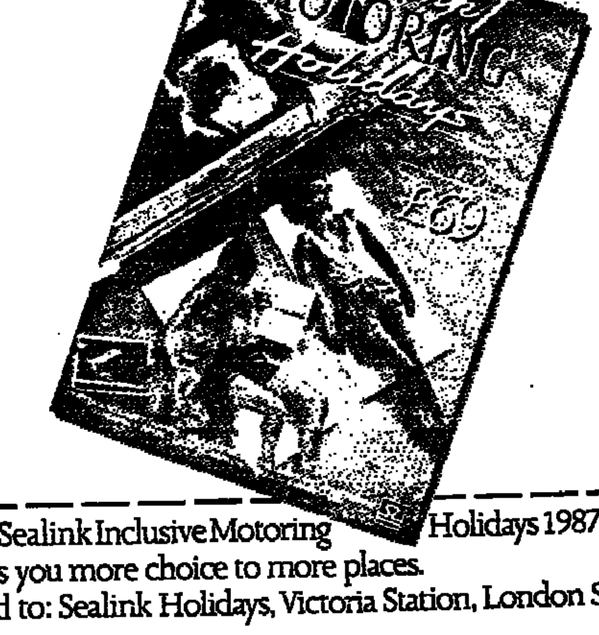

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FRIDAY PAGE

All-American Arab

Queen Noor of Jordan, former Princeton girl, gives Libby Purves her view of the Middle East 'as a wife and mother, Arab and Muslim'

Graham Wood

Bridging two worlds: Queen Noor tries to pass on idealism and hope to her children

The other day, in the biting wind and brilliant sunshine of Kensington Gardens in London, a tall blonde woman was to be seen running at full pelt, pushing a baby girl in a buggy. A baby princess, to be exact: for the athletic runner in the baggy tracksuit was Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Husain, Queen of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. "I really need exercise every day," she explains. She doesn't like missing any more of her four children's company than she has to: hence the crowing presence of one-year-old Princess Raiyah in the pushchair. It was a characteristically balanced solution to both needs.

Balance, in fact, is a favourite word for Queen Noor and her husband, King Husain. Her speech to the Oxford Union Society — the reason for her visit — was on the theme of "Balancing the Scales of Justice in the Middle East"; it was a considered, carefully phrased appeal to "the decision-makers of the future", the students of Britain, to understand the injustices in the Middle East. She has a fellow feeling for politically conscious students; it is only 15 years since Queen Noor, now aged 35, was a preppy at Princeton, one of the first girls at the college.

Talking at the Union, she enthused about those 1970s ideals of "equality, indivisible freedom, the grandeur of nature and the promise of individual dignity". In many ways, she seems the all-American girl: after Princeton she spent five years globe-trotting, as a qualified town planner. It took her to Jordan, and to a Kingdom. She bridges two worlds: and the main thrust of her speech was towards understanding between them. However bloody and bloody-minded the present scene in the Middle East may look, Noor expresses burning and idealistic hope. "I truly think there is hope. God willing, we are on the verge of it. Peace, only peace and justice, are the objectives".

It is important to listen to Noor on politics, to read her careful, diplomatic but idealistic speeches ("my humble views as a woman, as a wife and mother, as a Jordanian, Arab and Muslim,") before you attempt to approach her as a person. She is "not ideological, but an idealist", and identifies herself utterly with the ideals of her husband. "He has faith," she says.

He also has considerable faith in Noor. She never makes political speeches at home ("there is no need"); but abroad, she speaks and takes questions freely. "He did read this particular speech, because it's all very delicate at the moment; but he doesn't always. He does show trust in me, and I appreciate it, at a personal level." She has been interested in the recent furore over Nancy Reagan's alleged influence at the White House, and was interested when I recounted the Glenys Kinnock/Edwina Currie controversy here: it would, one felt, seem unnatural to her if a wife did not involve herself in a political husband's life.

It was eight years ago that Lisa Halaby, daughter of an Arab-American businessman and former Pan Am chairman, married King Husain of Jordan, 16 years her senior and one of the great survivors of Middle East politics. He had come to the throne at 16, survived three attempts on his life in early, unstable days; been twice divorced, and lost his third wife Alia in a helicopter crash.

He had eight children, three of whom she now mothers. Lisa Halaby had gone to Jordan in the hope of understanding more about the Arab roots of her own family. "I wanted to have — I suppose — some responsibility towards it. I wouldn't say I felt as if I was coming home, but I felt as if I was in a familiar place. There were never any barriers." They married, without any misgivings on her part. "At that time I thought mostly about the opportunities that this new life would bring. Not about the challenges, though there did turn out to be challenges in it." She has had four children and takes them travelling with her whenever she can; asked if, at home, she and the King manage to spend enough time with them, she answers frankly: "No. I don't think so. I will always feel as if there should be more time with the children." She has Jordanian and British nannies — not American — and sends the children to local schools. "I try to insist that they are treated exactly the same as everybody else. It doesn't always work out that way, but I try." And meanwhile she works in her private office in the gardens of the palace at Amman.

What does she work at, since the burning political speeches about peace and idealism are only for foreign trips? Well, she is "up to her neck" in social and cultural, educational and philanthropic works and institutions; the Noor Al Husain Foundation was created in 1985 to consolidate her multifarious projects. Talking about her aerobics and enthusiastic motherhood, laughing with her perfect teeth, tossing her great mane of blonde hair, you would think her archetypically and joyfully an all-American woman achiever; when she speaks seriously of her dedication to her husband and King's peace effort, or sincerely of her religion (she is a convert to Islam), or of the beauty and threatened tradition of her country, you sense another, older world in her, heavy with history and tragedy.

As for royal coolness, she has little: she is slightly shy of strangers at first, warms to her subject, and only occasionally glazes over at an indiscreet question. Noor has learnt over eight years never to overstate anything: and at home, in Jordan, to "restrict my behaviour to the position I have, and my husband has. I am a symbol. I have to be dignified." Not that there is much to restrict: "Really, we don't have time for nightclubbing and things — and wild excessive behaviour is not in either of our natures. We spend evenings together; we might watch videos; we try to take exercise. We are quiet."

Sometimes, worn down by a life in which there is "never even a weekend free", she yearns "for a little cottage, lost in the mountains", but even that dream is something she will not overstate. "I am very happy as I am. Remember, my father was in government service, early in his life: although later on he had better paid business positions, I always remember he was happiest then. I suppose I grew up in that ideal." A recent, brief skiing holiday in Austria broke the cycle of hard work for the first time in two years, but Queen Noor broke her right wrist. I was not altogether surprised to hear that she skied on regardless.

Noor comes to life vividly when she talks about the lessons she tries to pass on to her four small children, as they grow up in a precarious oasis of calm amid the troubles of the Middle East. It is a matter of idealism, but not, as she says again, ideology. "I try to explain to them the human face of people, to tell them that our adversaries are people like ourselves, whom we must one day live with in peace. I try to imbue them with the faith of their father."

If they come home from school, as children will, parrotting condemnation of the wicked Israelis, she pulls them up sharply: "I rebuke them. Israelis are like us, a mixture of good and evil. People must hold out their hands to each other." As for the threat of death by terrorism, which hangs over all Middle East leaders, she thinks about it little. "One is prudent and intelligent about daily life. Fear must not inhibit efforts. I pray for my husband's health and well-being though," she says a little uncertainly, "all through the day. It is second nature to me."

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Smoke in their eyes

BARBARA AMIEL

According to the BBC news, Mrs Edwina Currie, the Junior Health Minister, celebrated this week's National No-Smoking Day by running around Whitehall confiscating ash trays. I wondered what she did with them — hurl them against faded walls, clapping her hands to an unseen bouzouki player? One senses Mrs Currie is in training for sterner measures and that there is no peace in sight for her nicotine-defiled husband.

I'm not a smoker myself and other people's cigarettes discomfort me terribly. I do think it's courteous to avoid puffing smoke in my face and to have separate areas for smokers and non-smokers. It's simply civilized.

What I find I don't approve of very much are the people in the anti-smoking movement, including Mrs Currie. For sheer unpleasantness and silliness of moral tone, the militant anti-smokers take the cake. I suppose, historically speaking, this has always been true of temperance people generally, and the anti-smokers in particular who these days are going after the dangers of second-hand smoke. "We are quite convinced that there is evidence to show that you cause cancer in somebody else by smoking in their presence," said Mrs Currie on the BBC *Today* programme, as she announced a new Government report on "passive smoking". Well, not to mince words, I don't think this is true.

To avoid misunderstanding, I regard the anti-smokers' cause as a good thing overall. Smoking is unhealthy. Educational efforts to phase out smoking gradually are praiseworthy. I approve. What I don't like is the lying that accompanies it. The lie is the claim that the health hazards of second-hand smoke have been scientifically established.

As I sit here at my typewriter, I am breathing in pollutants from the construction that has been going on in the flat upstairs and the heavy fumes of cars going by. In order to construct an accurate study comparing the effect of passive smoke on non-smokers, you'd have to transport the gentle Tasadays from their unspoilt rain forests in the Philippines to a scientific laboratory.

Late last year the United States Surgeon-General, C. Everett Koop, made the flat statement that the effects of second-hand smoke were responsible for 2,000 deaths in the United States. When challenged by some scientists, he blithely retreated, saying that while he may have pulled the figure out of a hat, it was all in a good cause: the principle was right. But was it?

As even Surgeon-General Koop admitted, the majority of 16 studies on the connection of environmental tobacco smoke and lung cancer found no statistically signficant relationship. A field study involving 47 officers and 48 restaurants concluded that a non-smoker would have to sit behind a desk for 550 continuous hours, or at a table for 400 hours, before being exposed to the nicotine equivalent of one cigarette.

As a non-scientist, I have no way of telling you whether any of these studies are true or not. I can only read what they say. They talk about "potential" health hazards, which is a little like saying too much butter or sex is potentially harmful, and they can talk about the irritation and discomfort factor. What they cannot say is that passive smoking is injurious.

The government and anti-smoking forces have the zeal of those who are in possession of the Truth. The minute an idea catches their fancy they wish to legislate for it. This is where the true blue Tory and socialist meet. Only a genuine liberal doesn't want to legislate what he supposes is good for you. But, of course, if your aim is to ban smoking, it is not enough to show that it harms smokers themselves or that it annoys some non-smokers. You must show that smoking *injures* non-smokers before you can outlaw it. And if you can't show that, because there is no clear evidence for it (or the evidence goes the other way) you must create an atmosphere of alarm and hysteria.

Second-hand smoke may be discomforting. But falsifying facts, as Dr Koop admitted doing and with which Mrs Currie may be flirting, and subverting science to politics, are infinitely more dangerous.

FIRST PERSON

Patricia Finney

As the wonderful pre-election give-away Budget looms, may I make an appeal to all pundits, journalists and television presenters? Might we please have a moratorium on the words "give away" when used in connection with the activities of Mr Lawson? As in "Mr Lawson has £X billion to *give away* in tax cuts"?

It's easy to see why Mr Lawson might like to think of himself as a generous chap, giving away money, but I resent the implication that everything I earn actually belongs in some mysterious feudal way to the State. I resent the tone of voice in which budgeteers on television reveal the jolly news that something or other isn't going up by very much. I resent the continuous sub-text: Mr Lawson needs an awful lot of money so that he can look after all of us; but isn't he kind? He still lets us keep two-thirds of our own money!

Perhaps I resent it more because being self-employed makes the process so obvious. When you're on PAYE, paying tax isn't by any means painless, but at least it's done for you at source.

To anyone on Schedule D there inevitably comes a time when one must sit down and write out a vast cheque, payable to the Inland Revenue. The sensible self-employed tax themselves by putting the money into a special account as it comes in; the foolish spend the lot and go bankrupt when the taxman catches up. But even if you've been sensible and actually have the money to pay, nothing can assuage the agony of writing all those noughts on a cheque and sending it off to Mr Lawson's minions, when there are a million more interesting things you can do with the money.

But after the pain has subsided and sanity returns, even the most highly taxed people might admit that they could need a police force and roads and social security and a health service . . .

However, the truth remains that in his wonderful pre-election Budget, Mr Lawson is not going to give *away* anything.

He's going to give it back.

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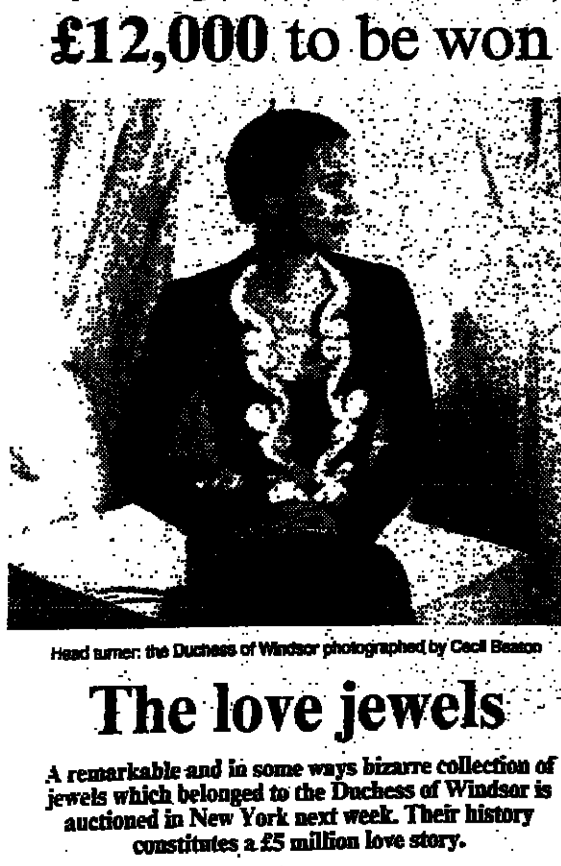

Head turner: the Duchess of Windsor photographed by Cecil Beaton

The love jewels

A remarkable and in some ways bizarre collection of jewels which belonged to the Duchess of Windsor is auctioned in New York next week. Their history constitutes a £5 million love story.

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Babies in the courts

This week's ruling is a small step forward on the complicated path of surrogacy and adoption

You're a kindly judge. You see a happy, healthy two-year-old thriving in the care of the only parents she's ever known, who obviously adore her. Her biological mother is happy to allow them to adopt her. What do you do? You give them your blessing, of course.

Mr Justice Latey's decision on Wednesday to allow Baby A's adoption opens the way for a childless couple to become full legal parents to a baby born by surrogacy, even where money has changed hands. Up to now, lawyers believed provisions banning payment for adoption consigned these babies to a legal limbo.

"It's a compassionate, sensible, humane judgment — I am delighted by it, though I don't agree with the judge's interpretation of the law," says Michael Freeman, professor of English law at University College, London. "It does show what a mess the interface between adoption and surrogacy is in."

The Surrogacy Arrangements Act 1985, rushed through in the aftermath of the Baby Cotton case to curb the activities of American-style commercial surrogacy agencies, made it a criminal offence to pay a third party for arranging a rent-a-womb deal. It also outlawed advertisements, but couples and stand-in mothers who get together privately break no law, even if the surrogate is paid.

The woman described in court as Mrs B (in 1985 she published a book about her experiences under the pseudonym Kirsty Stevens) was married with two children of her own when she decided to put an advertisement offering her services as a surrogate — then perfectly legal — in a contact magazine.

She told the judge, and he accepted, that she wasn't motivated by money. Her children were very precious to her and she wanted to give another couple the same joy. She regarded the money — £10,000 was agreed but in the event she took only £5,000 — as compensation for loss of earnings, expenses and physical and emotional factors.

Mr and Mrs A replied to the advertisement. Mrs A, in her mid-30s, was infertile. Mr A was 40. It was the second marriage for both, and they were desperate for a child. Kirsty and Mr A slept together several times before she conceived. After the birth, she spent a week with the As and the baby, then returned to her family, leaving the baby behind.

Another judge will soon have to play Solomon in the battle between surrogate and father

All very happy ever after, but surrogacy, as Mr Justice Latey warned, is still "no primrose path". Carrying their plans through involved both families in "a tangled web of deception".

In another courtroom this week, in Stafford, Sir John Arnold ruled that Britain's first surrogate twins, now five months old, should stay with their natural mother who had cared for them since birth. In America, another judge will soon have to play Solomon in the battle between surrogate and father over Baby M.

But the judgment in the A case — by the same judge, described by lawyers as "very humane", who handed Baby Cotton over to her American parents — at least removes one of the question marks hanging over surrogacy as a remedy for infertile couples, who now stand a reasonable chance of adopting their baby.

Parliament will soon have to decide whether to curb surrogacy further — for instance by making it illegal for surrogate mothers to accept payment, or by banning even non-profit-making organizations from arranging surrogacies — or, as Professor Freeman advocates, to regulate it and set up a framework in which it can be carried out on a non-commercial basis by adoption agencies or similar bodies. "After all, we've accepted AID (artificial insemination by donor), and I can see no real difference between that and surrogate motherhood," he says.

In a new edition of their book, *Law and Medical Ethics*, to be published in April by Butterworths, Professor Kenneth Mason and Dr Alexander McCall Smith of Edinburgh University lay down some possible ground rules. They suggest surrogacy should be supervised by a consultant, with the surrogate genetically screened, and should be legal only if medically certified.

The clinic should take no money, but the mother should be able to receive expenses and an honorarium, and she should retain the right to change her mind and keep the baby. And surrogacy should be tied to adoption, with the natural father and his wife given preference over other potential adopters.

Clare Dyer

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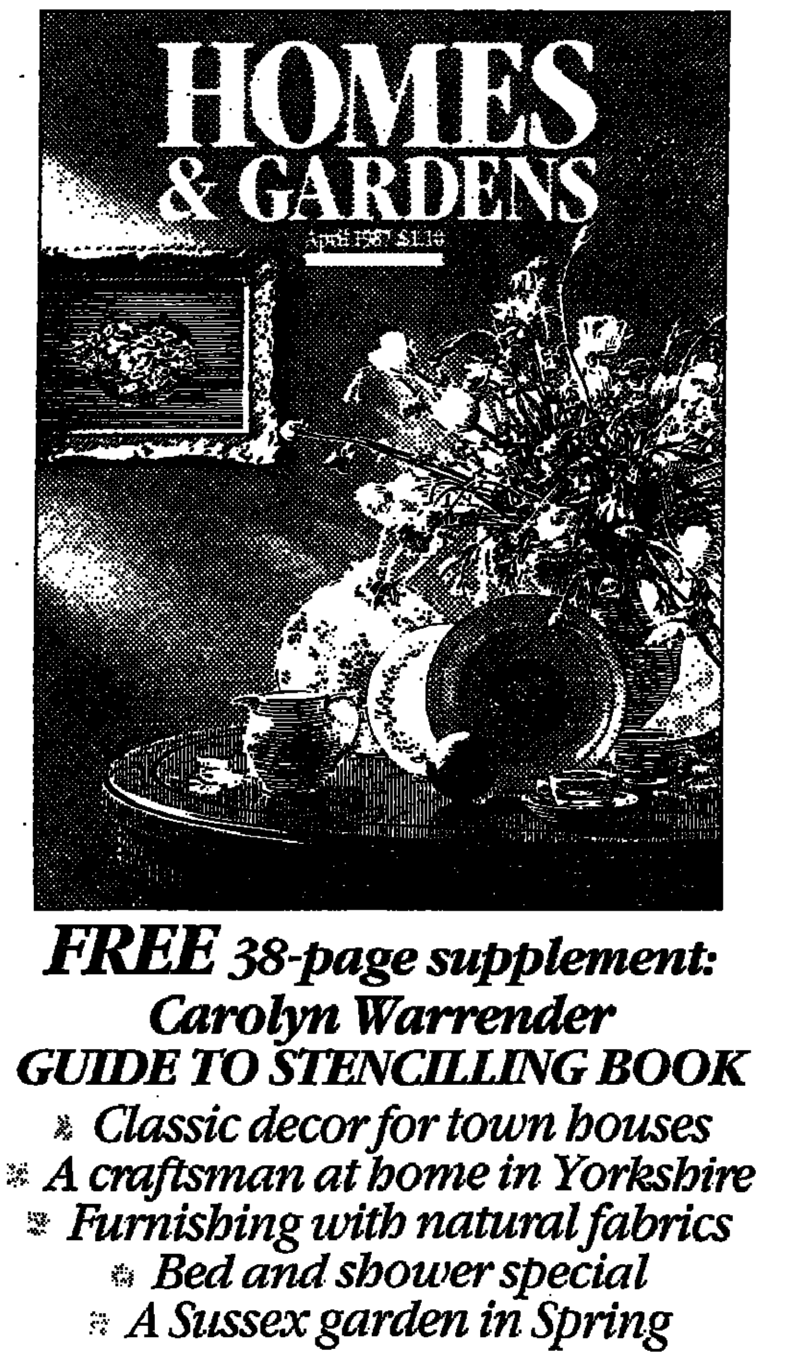

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هكذا من الإهمال

Fathers in law

This Week (ITV) reported on the Home Office's continuing endeavour to restrict immigration from the Indian subcontinent by concocting new regulations. The latest wheeze is called the "primary purpose" rule.

It works like this: if a female British citizen marries an Indian or Pakistani, the latter now has to satisfy immigration officials that he intends primarily to drown in his bride's doe-like eyes, and only secondarily to trundle frocks down the Commercial Road on cold winter mornings.

In the face of official interrogation, this can be hard to establish, and the reporter Peter Gill had no difficulty in finding young mothers whose babies are learning to equate the word "father" with a snapshot of a stranger half a world away.

TELEVISION

The crux of the problem is the arranged marriage, which naturally seems a pernicious institution to Western eyes. But it really is no good for ministerial eyebrows to be raised at the "naivety" of the newlyweds. The boot might justifiably be thought to be on the other foot.

Graham Miller's primary purpose in *40 Minutes* (BBC2) was to trace his father's bootsteps through Occupied France. Shot down over Beauvais in 1944, the RAF navigator was shunted by the Resistance from safe house to safe house, where he mooched about in relative comfort, confiding to his diary his irritation at the superabundance of food and the dearth of good English books.

Family tensions turned the Maysles brothers' extraordinary 1975 documentary *Grey Gardens* (Channel 4) into a slice of Eugene O'Neill or Tennessee Williams, with Jackie Onassis's aunt and cousin bickering in their cat-haunted, carpet-free Long Island home.

As a quirky portrait of the (often literally) filthy rich, this was exhaustingly compelling, marginally voyeuristic and rather incredible.

Martin Cropper

Growing up is so hard to do

David Robinson on the latest generation of Hollywood stars, barely into their teens but already talented actors

CINEMA

Stand By Me (15)
Cannons Haymarket, Tottenham Court Road, Chelsea

The Green Ray (pg)
Chelsea Cinema, Renoir

Wives . . . Ten Years After (15)
Cannon Piccadilly

The Killing Floor (pg)
Rio

Deadly Friend (18)
Warner West End, Cannon Oxford Street

Trick or Treat (18)
Prince Charles

You feel better if you cry: River Phoenix (left) comforts a tired and emotional Wil Wheaton in *Stand By Me*

An outstanding recent Hollywood phenomenon has been the emergence of a generation of stars in their teens and early twenties, who have started out as pop-pretty faces but gone on to develop into highly professional and versatile comedians and actors. Now they are becoming even younger – kids in their early rather than their late teens.

In *Explorers* and *Mosquito Coast*, River Phoenix displayed acting of a range and truth that trained grown-ups might envy. In **Stand By Me** he is teamed with three peers, one of whom – a skinny boy called Wil Wheaton – matches his sophistication in portraying the emotions and anxieties of early adolescence.

The film is adapted from a short story by Stephen King about four boys who set out on a secret adventure: to find the body of a schoolfriend killed in an accident. Wheaton plays the (evidently autobiographical) role of Gordie, a natural story-teller, for whom the compulsion to see a corpse is somehow connected to the guilt and loneliness left by the death of his own elder brother.

The rigours of the trek expose the characters and the vulnerability of his three companions, who come from a less-privileged social milieu: Chris (Phoenix) is bright, the natural leader, tarred with the reputation of delinquent; Teddy (Corey Feldman) is a trifle touched; fat Vern (Jerry O'Connell) is a bit of a wimp. The boys are at the awkward in-between age when they curse, smoke, talk dirty and generally show off, but can still giggle over stupid jokes and cry when scared (Wheaton is a great howler).

The dialogue is wonderfully authentic – true to the period (1959) as well as to the age of the boys; and Rob Reiner's direction of his cast and of the dramatic set-pieces that are built in to impel the slight story, is accomplished.

He and his writers (Reynold Gideon, Bruce A. Evans) should in fact have had more confidence in their narrative, with its sensitive portrait of boyhood and the first erosion of innocence. As it is it seems superfluous to overlay the film with an off-screen commentary by Richard Dreyfuss in the character of the Gordie of 25 years on.

Dreyfuss also appears on screen in a prologue and an epilogue in which he tells us what became of the boys afterwards (we are led to suppose from the concluding paragraph he types on his word processor that Gordie himself became a very bad writer). Equally, the visualization of Gordie's camp-fire yarn about the pie-eating contest that turned into a "barforama" ("barf" is a boys' word for vomit) is a miscalculation: the whole point is that it should be told in Gordie's own childishly ribald words.

The Green Ray (Le Rayon vert), the fifth in Eric Rohmer's series of "Contes et Proverbes", departs from its predecessors: Rohmer's meticulously scripted dialogue is here replaced by talk largely improvised by the actors. It does not much alter the characteristic Rohmer flavour, the arch, poker-faced humour with which he observes the self-absorption of his people in the trivial agonies of the heart.

The special problem he sets himself here is to make us feel concern for a heroine who is thoroughly tiresome, her own unremitting worst enemy. Delphine (Marie Riviere) is a colourless and diffident secretary whose lover has, not surprisingly, walked out and who has been let down by her intended holiday companion.

A series of attempted vacations – with a family in Cherbourg, at a ski resort, in Biarritz – all end up in disappointment or disaster, mostly because of Delphine's terrified rebuff to any man who makes a pass at her.

Delphine's trouble is that she is a wilful romantic in a coolly realist world. Kindly Rohmer promises a chance for her at the end, with a man as shy as she is and a mystic sign from heaven – the green ray of the title.

Marie Riviere's performance skilfully keeps us on the point of wanting to slap some sense into the woman, while still at the end retrieving our sympathy and even a degree of satisfaction that maybe she has found her man at last. Her emotional trials still leave room for Rohmer's sly humour at the expense of romance, of heads turned by *les vacances* (a theme which regularly figures in his films) and moments like the vegetarian Delphine's discomfiture at a carnivorous country feast.

Disastrous Delphine is a bundle of fun beside the trio of grass widows in Anja Brejen's **Wives . . . Ten Years After.** The moment they settle down to enjoy a nice meal they start to quarrel, pour forth alcoholic tears and curse their bad luck in love. Ten years ago the original *Wives* reflected quite wittily on Nordic sexual hangups. This sequel jadedly follows the same form: the women take off on a Christmas spree without men, get drunk and make nuisances of themselves in saunas, department stores (they seduce Santa Clauses) and hotels. At 40, these disappointed retarded adolescents are quite tiresome.

The Killing Floor is a touching, ambitious effort by the black director Will Duke, interesting less for purely cinematic qualities than for its content – a re-creation of the racial and labour confrontations in the Chicago meat-packing houses in the aftermath of World War I. Wartime boom gave employment to black workers; peacetime recession and unemployment brought tensions and bitter hostilities, which the employers exploited for their own profit.

The progress of the hero, Frank Custer, from simple migrant sharecropper to union leader is often predictable and schematic, but the performances, especially that of the charismatic Damien Leake in the main role, are compelling.

Deadly Enemy is set in the same everyday small-town suburbia as Wes Craven's earlier *Nightmare on Elm Street*. People go about their normal affairs – a mad recluse habitually shoots callers on sight; a drunken father batters his daughter and throws her downstairs, while next door a teenage medical-student conducts experiments that put Dr Frankenstein in the shade, having already built the world's most advanced robot in his spare time.

This is in fact trash Frankenstein, as our young hero transplants the robot's brain into the lovely empty head of the girl next door. The story is only an excuse for gory special effects of exploding heads and meaty brain surgery.

Wes Craven's actors are a different breed from the best of the Hollywood brat pack: as cute and dead as kewpie dolls. Marc Price, as the teen hero of **Trick or Treat** at least has humour and the merit of oddity, with his pug face and tiny voice. The film as a whole, in fact, is a cut above the general run of kid-schlock, in terms of comedy and invention.

The film is the first work directed (between special effects) by Charles Martin Smith, an actor whose most notable performance was his solo role as the young scientist in *Never Cry Wolf*.

CONCERT

YMSO/Blair
Festival Hall

Ambitious and experienced at Mahler though they are, on the face of it the Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra risked biting off more than they could chew by tackling that composer's Eighth Symphony. Not only does the work demand immense forces – though rather fewer than the thousand implied by its nickname – but it is as mightily difficult as it is mighty, a fact that these players shrugged aside with the innocent confidence happily characteristic of talented youth.

Doubtless, too, they were urged on by the knowledge that they were making a little piece of history. Nobody before last night had ever dared to give the work on the South Bank.

One of the advantages of doing so was that it allowed us to hear more detail than usual. True, sometimes the YMSO's brass section was slightly over-enthusiastically encouraged by the conductor, James Blair. Consequently they tended to overwhelm the texture, most tellingly – if thrillingly – when the extra players, doubled in number and regally situated in the ceremonial box, added their considerable weight to each movement's climax.

But despite many an heroic solo, this was not a night when only the section principals excelled themselves. The confidence with which Blair inspired the entire orchestra as he powered his way through this uplifting score was just as impressive in the quieter moments of the vast *Faust* setting as it was in the supreme exultancy of *Veni, Creator Spiritus*.

Meanwhile, the voices of the London Choral Society, the Pro Musica Chorus of London, the robustly angelic boys of King's House School, Richmond, and the London Oratory School compensated for their (relatively) small number with some decisive, well-focused singing. And the solo team of Penelope Walmsley-Clark, Alison Hargan, Patrizia Kwella, Helen Willis, Penelope Walker, Kenneth Bowen, David Wilson-Johnson and Michael Pearce fitted in with the whole concept admirably.

Stephen Pettitt

Martyr to the Bard

Black Star
Octagon, Bolton

Nothing is more fantastic in the career of Ira Aldridge, the 19th-century black American tragedian, than the fact that he ended his long reign on the English stage by finding a grave in provincial Poland.

Such is the pretext for David Pownall's play, which presents Aldridge exclusively through the Polish connection. It raises some searching theatrical questions. Here is a man who has fought his way through poverty and prejudice to international fame. How would he respond to a servile outpost of Tsarist Russia offering so many mirror images of the destitution and racism he left behind? And how did Shakespeare come across to the contemporaries of Chopin and Miskiewicz?

To explore these questions, Pownall billets Aldridge at a house in the provinces, where he has just had a resounding flop with *The Merchant of Venice*. The plot starts thickening when his host emerges as a fiery patriot whose wife's vehement anti-Semitism explains the show's failure. Karail (the husband), suggests they substitute it with *Macbeth*, fully realizing that, as a regicidal work, it is on the forbidden list.

Enter a Tsarist agent, who puts in a rival plea for *Othello*, which to the Poles counts almost as a Russian work. The Shakespearean repertoire, Aldridge discovers, is a political minefield.

The action sets out to show Aldridge as an artist, who has steered resolutely clear of politics, being provoked into taking sides. It is an interesting scheme, sabotaged at almost every turn by the poverty of the writing.

Karail is intended as a nationalist hero who nevertheless imposes anti-Semitic opinions on his wife. In John Adams's production they are also played as Irish people whose accents keep slipping.

Much worse follows in the second act, which moves into the local theatre (with Poles now speaking Polish) in preparation for the night's show, which turns out to be a clownishly incoherent jumble of *Othello* and *Macbeth*, punctuated with verses of "Polly Wolly Doodle" from a star who cannot play the banjo.

All this serves as a prelude to Karail's arrival, to trumpet patriotic slogans and suffer a martyr's death, long before which the audience would have walked out.

Joseph Marcell puts on a mighty show of actor-managerial ego and mischievous trickery as Aldridge, but what comes over most strongly is a satire on black stereotypes which makes small contact with the surrounding issues. Ray Jewers offers a thoughtful and self-respecting performance as the Russian agent.

Irving Wardle

Smoke, but no fire

Dans La Solitude des champs de coton
Théâtre des Amandiers
Nanterre, Paris

Marc Enguerand

Make me an offer: Laurent Malet, as the Client in Bernard-Marie Koltes's *Dans La Solitude*

Just in case you should worry that the place is about to burst into flames, the charming usherettes at the Théâtre des Amandiers tell you gently that the menacing cloud of smoke slowly enveloping the acting area and the audience is deliberate. This is a wise move on the part of the management, as there is no clue as to the *raison d'etre* of this kipper-curing piece of atmospherics in the programme notes, nor in the title of Bernard-Marie Kiltes's new two-hander, *Dans La Solitude des champs de coton* ("In the Solitude of the Cotton Fields"), directed by Patrice Chéreau.

It is, however, a case of a lot of very cleverly directed smoke, screening the fact that the work itself [illegible] say beyond the first 20 minutes, and that [illegible] continues for a further [illegible]

It does however, provide a platform for the not inconsiderable acting abilities of Isaach de Bankole and Laurent Malet, and confirm 43-year-old Chereau's reputation as one of France's outstanding directors.

Before Chereau's appointment in 1982 as head of the Amandiers' state-financed theatre complex, deep in the Paris suburbs of Nanterre, he worked with the Piccolo Teatro in Milan, partnered Roger Planchon at the TNP, Lyons, and directed that famous *Ring* at Bayreuth.

Koltes was something of an unknown quantity until he was "discovered" by Chereau. *Dans La Solitude* (which runs until March 17) is his fourth play, and the third to be produced at Nanterre. Last season *Quai Ouest*, a co-production with the Comédie Française, established him as a playwright to be noted.

Koltes is concerned with despondency and gloom. The former is given voice by a super-abundance of quasi-cerebral text, the latter reinforced by having the events take place at night, for preference in somewhere like a rotting, defunct dock – as in *Quai Ouest*, on which the lights never quite went up.

THEATRE

Dans La Solitude follows suit, so much so that Richard Peduzzi, the Amandier's much sought-after designer in residence, has filled some of [illegible] cotton fields. Perhaps it is too simplistic [illegible] and make some connection between the play's title and the cotton-pickin' character of the Dealer (de Bankole), a black man fattened out by several layers of Oxfam rejects. In contrast, the Client (Laurent Malet), is a blonde sliver, multi-zipped into punk tartan drainpipes. Communication, on a level that most people can come to grips with, is definitely not for these two opposing strangers in the night.

The Dealer has something to sell, but will not say what, because he is afraid of refusal. [illegible] is eager to buy but [illegible] not say what, in fear of it being unavailable. It is like a grotesque boxing match, a never-ending rain of verbal punches delivered with mounting aggression which never hit their mark. Malet and de Bankole are admirably matched, and with Chereau as their trainer they give nigh-faultless performances.

The piece was commissioned by Pierre Audi for his Almedia Theatre in London, but Chereau has somehow pipped him to the world premiere post. It is hard to imagine how Audi could better Chereau's treatment of the work, unless somewhere along the line it loses at least 30 minutes, or gains in translation.

Diane Hill

Dogged history

A View of the River
Half Moon

When a shorter version of this requiem for Dockland was performed last summer – in a warehouse on Canary Wharf since converted to rubble – the local response was considered sufficiently enthusiastic to warrant a repeat production here on the Mile End Road.

Sight lines in the Half Moon's new building are good, and the short galleries just forward of the stage – where they resemble open walkways on council flats – are cleverly used by the director (Alan Gilbey) to show trudging workers, weighed down by sacks, housewives calling to one another during the Blitz and schoolchildren playing.

The cast is largely, if not entirely, amateur, which makes the lines of criticism hard to draw.

The producing company, Woof Theatre, based on the Isle of Dogs (geddit?), wrote, designed, constructed and performs the show and the result, as one would expect, is often ingenious, sometimes humorous, and variably performed.

A U-bend in blue paint loops across the stage, identifying it as the Isle of Dogs, site of the most lucrative office development in Europe.

The melancholy strains of unaccompanied cello make it clear that the story may end happily for the LDDC and its crowing bird mascots, but the displaced East Ender will feel only the edge of a bulldozer.

The show suggests that displacement has been the islanders' lot throughout history.

Innocent island animals of long ago (danced with simple charm by children) are devoured by talented wolves. Human wolves (bosses) consume the working man.

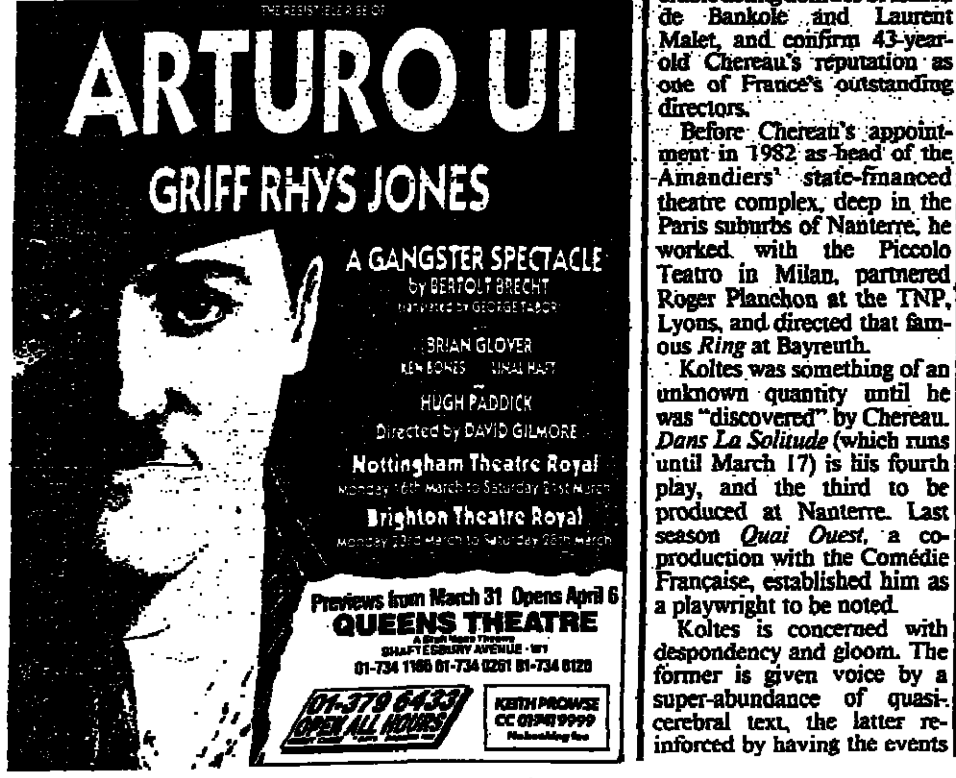
The history survey is too sketchy to be interesting and the script is at its best when cutting through expectations. "If only we could get together . . . " muses a docker and, just as one is braced to hear an argument in favour of unions, a second docker gabbles the expected line, exits, reappears with a banner and is greeted with: "Doesn't time fly when you've a limited budget?"

Yuppies and television smoothies are mocked, but gently: capitalist values are attacked, also gently.

At a requiem rage may be thought tasteless, but the alternative appears to be, of all things, the dreaded cliché of cockney good humour.

Jeremy Kingston

The *Times* Information Service is on page 22



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A GANGSTER SPECTACLE
by BERTOLT BRECHT
translated by GEORGE TABORI
BRIAN GLOVER
KEN BONES LINAL HAFT
HUGH PADDICK
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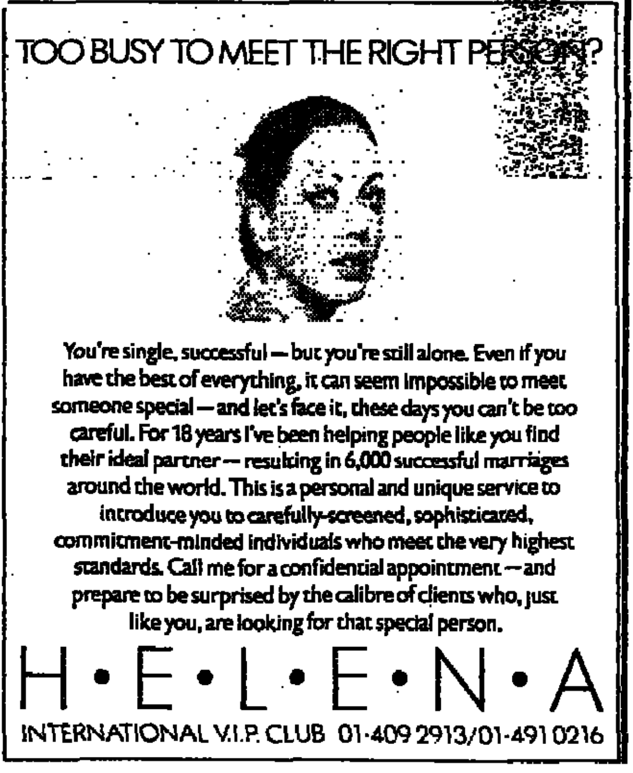

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THE TIMES DIARY

Curtain up on concern

The Chinese are in for a culture shock later this month when 20 girls from Cranborne Chase School in Wiltshire perform Liverpool playwright Willy Russell's *Blood Brothers* in Shanghai and Peking. The play is a fable of two nations which, as our critic put it, is "at no pains to be fair to both sides." Rather it starkly portrays innocence crushed in slums and the heartlessness bred by affluence. The Chinese, treated last year to *Death of a Salesman*, should be getting used to this vision of Western society but they are bound to be puzzled by the stance of the young actresses, whose parents pay boarding fees of £4,800 a year. As Tory MP Robert Adley, an expert in Chinese affairs, put it yesterday: "The girls of Cranborne Chase should know all about a divided society. What's wrong with *Love's Labours Lost?*" Drama teacher Allan Steven, who formerly taught in a state school, tells me: "The girls are very concerned young people."

Moss gathers

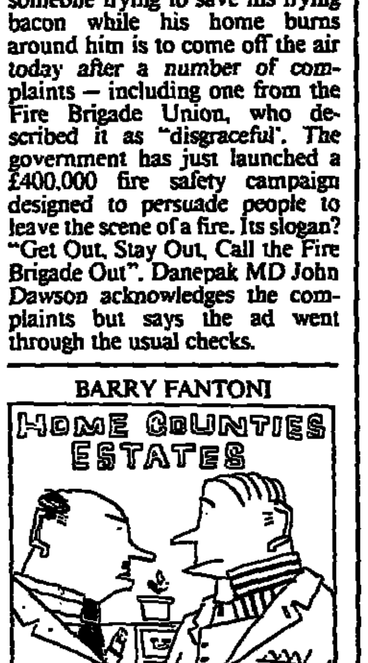
Addicts of the twilight world of British intelligence will soon be able to read for the first time the confession made by atom spy Klaus Fuchs prised out by MI5 interrogator Jim Skardon, who died this week. Their enjoyment will be spiced by the knowledge that the transcript is officially considered unsuitable for British consumption and remains classified, even though contemporary papers were released under the 30-year rule in 1950. Not to be outdone, Norman Moss, author of *Klaus Fuchs – The Man who Stole the Atom Bomb*, obtained the document from the FBI under the American Freedom of Information Act. He has used it as an appendix to the book, which is due out next month.

● Connoisseurs of bureaucracy will relish press release 68/87 from the Department of Education and Science announcing the publication of an index – to 1986 DES press releases.

Fry stir

The Danepak TV ad showing someone trying to save his frying bacon while his home burns around him is to come off the air today after a number of complaints – including one from the Fire Brigade Union, who described it as "disgraceful". The government has just launched a £400,000 fire safety campaign designed to persuade people to leave the scene of a fire. Its slogan? "Get Out, Stay Out, Call the Fire Brigade Out". Danepak MD John Dawson acknowledges the complaints but says the ad went through the usual checks.

BARRY FANTONI



'Something preferably not previously owned by the Mafia or an insider dealer'

Battered up

Yorkshire Television thought it had gone to great pains when it gave a dinner for its region's Labour MPs at a London hotel on Tuesday last week. The courses came and went; the wine flowed freely; and as the evening drew to a close, Paul Fox, YTV's managing director, prepared to give a short address. At this point, Kevin McNamara, MP for Hull, piped up: "It's Shrove Tuesday. Where's the pancakes?" The cry was taken up by the other MPs. And so it was that as Fox was concluding his remarks, waiters streamed into the restaurant bearing 38 pancakes. As McNamara told me: "These fancy London PRs forget what the Labour party's all about. It's about pancakes on pancake day."

Spotlighted

Matthew Taylor, who but for some unforeseen disaster will today be declared Liberal MP for Truro, will be given on Tuesday one of the most highly publicized introductions to the House of Commons a new member could dream of: between Prime Minister's Question Time and the Budget speech, both of which will be broadcast live

Topping

Police magazine's gossip columnist this month captures the authentic voice of our judiciary. Sitting in Taunton recently, Judge Wilcox spoke severely to a police sergeant who, on entering the witness box, unthinkingly handed his helmet to the woman prosecutor. Leaning forward, Wilcox told him: "I should like to point out that this is not a seedy night club, where you hand in your hat to the girl upon entrance." Oh, carefree, far gone days when gentlemen wore hats and naughty girls were called Fifi.

PHS

Tax: Labour's opportunity

by Frank Field

After Greenwich, and the latest fracas over defence policy, even Labour MPs – not, as a group, the most farsighted of people – realize that the party's vote may begin to disintegrate. One possible way to prevent any further collapse of support is to rethink its main policy commitments.

On no front is this more urgent than taxation. Far from promising to reverse whatever tax cuts that Nigel Lawson might announce next week, Labour should outgun Mrs Thatcher by promising a big reduction in the standard rate of income tax within the life of the next parliament.

Such a promise could be realized only if Labour were prepared to reform the tax structure. Income tax is built around a system of allowances. These are of two kinds: those applicable to individuals – hence the term personal allowances – and those for approved expenditure, such as mortgage repayments and acquiring a pension. This latter group is out of control and urgently needs to be reformed.

Because these latter allowances are offset against a taxpayer's marginal rate of tax, the higher the rate of tax he or she faces, the greater their value. The cost of this tax benefit welfare state is now insupportable. There is a surprisingly simple reason for this state of affairs. While chancellors have to legislate to bring tax benefits into existence, they have no idea how many will claim the relief, or what it will total; in effect, they have been presenting taxpayers with an open cheque.

The cost of granting mortgage interest relief, relief on investment income and contributions to occupational pension schemes now totals £12.6 billion a year; this is more than the entire cost of the supplementary benefit and housing benefit schemes for the poor, which, even after a two million increase in unemployment, comes to only £12.1 billion.

Calculations by the House of Commons Library indicate that, on current projections, relief on mortgage interest, and the two forms of relief for occupational pension schemes will, over the next decade, grow to such an extent that they will command the equivalent of 10 per cent of the entire government budget.

I believe that it is the inadmissible growth in the cost of these tax benefits which will ultimately force their reform on to the agenda of unwilling politicians. So why not make a virtue out of necessity?

A Labour chancellor should promise to impose a cash ceiling on each major tax benefit, excepting only personal allowances. In each succeeding year, the set sum – for example the £4.5 billion curently lost on mortgage interest relief – would be shared among an increasing number of taxpayers. The phasing out of benefits would be brought about gradually, with little change in monetary value over the first few years. In each succeeding year, however, the amount of revenue would grow rapidly.

Labour should pledge itself to use the whole of this revenue to reduce the rate of tax and to increase the rate of child benefit. This latter move would begin to reshape the welfare state, providing the poor with a springboard to freedom. The aim should be to reduce the standard rate to less than 20p in the pound.

Of course, there is a price tag. The phasing out of tax benefits would shift dramatically the burden of taxation. Those on the highest incomes gain most under the existing provisions, and it is they who would be most affected. They would share in the cut in the rate of tax, but this reduction would be of greatest value to those on low incomes, who currently gain least from tax benefits.

Such reform would enable the electorate to see Labour in a new light. Its Freedom and Fairness campaign would be given immediate relevance. It would, moreover, herald the welcome demise of a post-war paternalism that offers generous tax hand-outs on condition that taxpayers spend their money in a way that politicians believe is good for them.

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The author, Labour MP for Birkenhead, has published Freedom and Wealth in a Socialist Future *(Constable, £7.95).*

Andrew Rutherford on America's example in dealing with young offenders

Fighting crime with care and kindness

Any day now, the number of people held in Britain's prisons will reach the unprecedented total of 50,000. It will be an unwelcome symbolic number and pose real dangers of violence in the jail system during the summer.

Despite denials, rumours persist that the government is considering an amnesty which would halt the steady rise in the prison population. With the passage of the Criminal Justice Bill now before Parliament, it should rethink its entire prison policy. In particular, there are relatively simple ways to break out of the vicious circle of incarcerating large numbers of young people behind bars.

Two out of every five people imprisoned are under 21 – twice the proportion of 25 years ago. This misplaced faith in custody, which amazes our European neighbours, is largely directed at small-scale property offenders and only weakens their already tenuous bonds with society.

Fifteen years ago Massachusetts closed down its young offender institutions, and the Commons committee is reported to be impressed by the array of alternative programmes which now exist across the state. Massachusetts is generally regarded as a liberal state and the prevailing mood of the early 1970s perhaps helped make a quantum leap of this kind possible. But similar developments now taking place in other American states make it difficult to dismiss the growing American belief that prison is not the place where young people are likely to put crime behind them. A key example is Utah, which is far from being a bastion of liberalism.

In May 1975, litigation began in a federal court alleging widescale ill-treatment within Utah's large and only institution for young offenders, the inaptly named Youth Development Centre. Scott Matheson, who later became state governor, described the 400-bed institution as horrendous. "We were", he has said, "running a very unprofessional piece of public business." The civil suit prompted the state to take action, but Matheson insisted that the reform be fashioned by state government and not at the behest of a federal court.

Matheson, a Democrat, was a strong governor who, for eight years, worked well with the Republican-controlled legislature. He set up a task force representing law enforcement agencies and citizen groups to chart a new way forward. This task force urged that the Utah young offenders' institution be closed and that the state construct two or three regional 30-bed units. In December 1983 the institution was formally shut down and the site converted into a vocational school.

Regimentation in a British detention centre. In Utah today they do things differently

A variety of community-based projects have replaced the institution. These are provided on a contract basis with the state, usually by a private non-profit agency. The new projects include close supervision and support within the offender's home, and carefully structured foster home placements. The results are encouraging, and a recently completed study shows that the rate of subsequent offences has decreased and is no higher than for youths placed on probation. The report concluded that the experiment was an unqualified success in terms of not compromising public safety.

Why did these changes take place in Utah, a conservative state, during the early 1980s – a period associated with toughness on law and order issues? First, there was a coalition of people persuaded that the penal institution was beyond reform and others who, concerned with the high abscondment rate at the institution, welcomed the provision of small, secure units.

Secondly, much of the initiative for reform was seized by key officials within the Division of Youth Corrections. Third, the closure of the young offender institutions in Massachusetts during the early 1970s was well known to those pressing for reform in Utah. As a state senator has remarked: "I like to think that we could have done it without Massachusetts but it gave us the confidence." Fourth, there is within the state a strong commitment to young people. Observers give some weight to the Mormon influence within the state, but also acknowledge that Mormons are by no means unique in placing a high value on young people and the family. Fifth, despite the party split between the legislators and the governor, the new approach to young offenders is not a divisive issue. As one politician put it, it was a matter whose time had come. Finally, there has been no opposition from the media. Coverage of the reform process has been balanced, with support in newspaper editorials for the changes.

This is not to suggest there is no tension or disagreement on the topic of youth crime within the state. Some concern exists regarding the state's ability to monitor effectively the privately run community programmes. Nevertheless, three years after the closure of the Youth Development Centre, Utah – along with Massachusetts – can be described as a state which has decisively rejected incarceration as a public policy for dealing with youth crime. Just as Massachusetts is an inspirational beacon for reformers elsewhere, so the developments in Utah are attracting attention in other parts of the United States. Several states, mostly in the west, are poised to take significant steps to provide more effective and humane ways of dealing with young people in trouble.

As Utah and other American states develop new and effective strategies to confront youth crime, preparations are under way at Feltham in Middlesex to open next year a 900-bed youth custody and remand centre. Costing an estimated £25 million, it will be one of the largest youth prisons in the world. If the policy thrust on young offenders is to be reversed in this country urgent consideration must be given to creating a structure within which change might occur.

A Home Office agency other than the Prison Department should be responsible for young offender institutions and for developing a wide array of community-based alternatives. There should, as in the United States (where criminal justice is largely a state responsibility), be more scope for local and regional innovation. Practice in the United States, however encouraging, cannot be directly applied to the very different conditions in this country. But there is much to be learned about structures that facilitate or impede change and about recognizing and acting upon windows of opportunity.

The Utah experience is also a useful reminder that it may well be people traditionally tough on law and order issues who hold the key to reform, fired as many are by an awareness that young offender institutions are in fact part of the crime problem, and one part about which something can actually be done.

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The author is chairman of the Howard League for Penal Reform.

'Free' Hungary – the harsh reality

Hungary has long enjoyed the reputation of being the most "liberal" communist state. Its leaders have assiduously cultivated an image of relative tolerance towards dissent and accepting the existence of an opposition. Anyone challenging this cosy view would be quietly told that the party would love to be more open but, of course, account must always be taken of the chill winds of disapproval blowing from Moscow.

This image takes a hard knock, indeed it disappears altogether, in the light of a secret document which has reached the West. It is a resolution of the ruling communist Politburo with details of the party's strategy towards the democratic opposition. Few current documents of this degree of confidentiality from Eastern Europe have surfaced before, and it has roughly the same status as Cabinet minutes; it was made available through the East European Cultural Foundation.

The Politburo resolution takes an unequivocally harsh line towards the opposition. The document refers repeatedly to "the enemy opposition" and, while insisting that "political" steps would be used against it, regards "administrative" methods as being acceptable. The Politburo's goal is to limit the impact of the opposition and, implicitly, to ensure its disappearance.

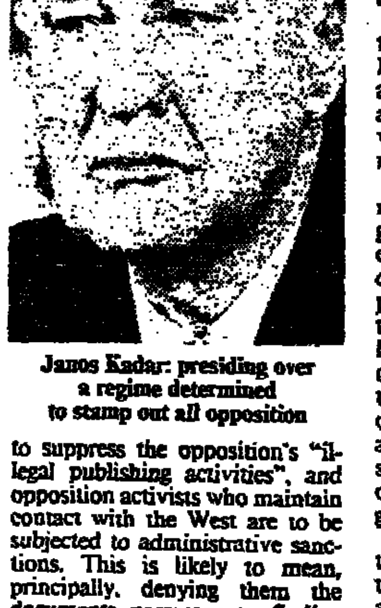
The seriousness of the party's concern is shown by the decision to set up a consultative committee to "determine and co-ordinate the tasks needed for the suppression of hostile activity." The committee is expected to establish an ideological and political platform, on the basis of which the appropriate party and state bodies – and these could include the Ministry of Interior – could take concrete measures against the opposition.

There is good evidence from the resolution that the Hungarian party is more than a little worried about the opposition's growing influence. "The principal task in the work to be implemented in the suppression of enemy activity is, as before, the preventing of wider links with the masses," it says. Particularly vulnerable are the younger intellectuals and university students. "Efforts must be directed at preventing the enemy groups from taking the initiative, on any important issue, that of the environment included."

The resolution says the party must do more to keep opposition views out of the media, as well as scientific and cultural life. It was especially galling for the Politburo to have to admit that even party members were taking part in some opposition activities.

Similarly, the spread of opposition views to the universities appeared to have gone as far as influencing faculty members. University newspapers and journals were likewise not immune. The practice of "individuals responsible for hostile activites" being invited to lecture at such institutions must be stopped.

Considerable efforts must be made, according to the resolution, to suppress the opposition's "illegal publishing activities", and opposition activists who maintain contact with the West are to be subjected to administrative sanctions. This is likely to mean, principally, denying them the documents necessary to finding employment – easy enough, when the state is virtually the sole employer.



Janos Kadar: presiding over a regime determined to stamp out all opposition

Another source of concern is the broadcast by the Hungarian language services of radio networks in the West – presumably including the BBC and Radio Free Europe – of opposition views published in *samizdat* journals. Hungarian embassies are instructed to be more active in making "our viewpoints known and understood" in the West. This intensified propaganda effort abroad should be in harmony with the way that domestic opinion is kept informed of official measures against the opposition.

Official spokesmen have consistently told the West that the Hungarian leaders are not worried about the opposition, regarding its activities as insignificant and its views as "boring". The Politburo resolution tells another tale.

The context of this Politburo resolution is doubly ironical. Hungary is now experiencing serious economic difficulties which require a much more determined political leadership to deal with than it actually has. The drift that has been palpable for the last two or three years continues apace. In this situation, much of what the opposition has to say could be accepted by an elightened leadership as valuable, given that the opposition has far fewer axes to grind than the elite.

Secondly, this tightening up is taking place at exactly the same time as the Gorbachov reforms are starting to have an impact on Eastern Europe. The implication is that the Hungarians are at best unprepared and, at worst, deeply divided about how they should respond to the Gorbachov challenge.

George Schöpflin

The author is lecturer in politics at the London School of Economics.

David Watt

Can Israel stay so special?

Lord Sieff, the president of Marks and Spencer, tells us in his recent delightful autobiography that Jim Callaghan once asked him to be ambassador to Jerusalem, but he declined on the ground that he was so identified in the public mind with support for Israel that nobody would believe he would put British interests first.

Such magnificent scruples have never troubled anyone in a similar position in the United States where it has usually been assumed that what is good for America is good for Israel – and vice versa. And yet this assumption may not be quite so universal after the case of Jonathan Pollard, the US Navy analyst sentenced to life imprisonment for passing thousands of top secret papers to Israeli intelligence. The Defence Secretary, Caspar Weinberger, is so outraged that he is restricting the circulation of intelligence to Israel. George Shultz, the Secretary of State, is taking similar action.

Israeli liberals believe that US-Israeli relations can be saved only by full disclosure and an apology. The Israeli government itself, after an agonized eight-hour Cabinet, has finally consented to a formal, though private, inquiry. But the trade minister, Ariel Sharon, has already blown the gaff on them with a characteristic defence. He claims that it is all the Americans' fault; if they had passed on as much intelligence as they ought it wouldn't have been necessary to spy on them.

We have here a classic confrontation of attitudes. On the one hand Weinberger and Shultz represent the conventional claims of the nation state. Under the rules of this system governments are entitled to protect their interests and secrets from others, and citizens have a primary duty to their own state. Espionage is part of the game but its practitioners are justified only by the extreme hostility of their targets. Israel, on this view, cannot expect special consideration if it oversteps international norms or the bounds of behaviour between allies.

In opposition to this we have the extreme Zionist position represented by Messrs Sharon and Pollard. The first of these suggests that in some way Israel is a special case, exempt from the normal rules by virtue of its origins and historical environment. The existence of this state is hallowed, as a Promised Land, beyond the existence of other states and its protection therefore justifies all sorts of arrogance and "dirty tricks" (annexations, bombings and kidnappings, for instance) that would not be justified in the case, say, of the Soviet Union.

Moreover, it remains a constant theme of people like Sharon that anyone who objects to Israeli policies is morally delinquent and insensitive to the past; because of the Holocaust, the whole world owes Israel a living – on Israel's terms.

The Pollard challenge is even more radical. It is anti-assimilationism carried to its logical conclusion: loyalty to Israel should take priority over loyalty to one's own state. This notion of Jewry as a gigantic conspiracy (like communism) against the nation state is indignantly and justifiably repudiated by the vast majority of Jews. But there is sometimes just enough truth in it to produce some odd results, particularly in America.

Take the Irangate affair, for instance. It has become very clear as the story has unfolded that Israel played a crucial and malign role in it. It was Israel which originally suggested swapping arms for hostages; Israel was implicated in every step of the absurd negotiations; Israel seems to have been essential to the shady financial transactions.

What is striking about this is the ease with which the Israelis were able to play on the US administration's weaknesses for their own ends. Equally remarkable has been the kid-gloved caution with which most of the American media have treated this aspect of the affair. Anyone who has worked in Washington or New York knows the reasons: the Israeli lobby has established an unrivalled position of power over the years – based, at least in part, on the fact that so many American officials and media people are Jews who have been reluctant to face the fact that the objective interests of the US and Israel quite frequently and inevitably diverge.

The question in the aftermath of the Pollard incident is whether the influence of this lobby is being undermined by Israel's recent behaviour. There are some signs that it may be. A poll by the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations just before Irangate shows that most Americans continue to think warmly of Israel and three-quarters of them perceive her as being a "vital interest". However, that interest does not seem to stand the acid test: only 32 per cent would be in favour of sending troops to Israel if the Arabs invaded (a drop on four years ago). It is also significant that while 63 per cent of opinion leaders sympathize more with Israel than the Arabs, only 32 per cent of administration officials now do so.

This level of irritation, already serious last autumn, must be far higher today. Whether it continues to grow will depend on how far Israel is prepared to compromise her own interests to meet the strategic concerns of the US, and that in turn will depend on the developing balance of political forces in Israel itself as the state takes on more and more the psychological characteristics of a purely regional power. But after nearly 40 years in which Israel has had an unnatural hold over US policy, it seems that a process of change may now be under way.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Election fever was academic

Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary for Energy, yesterday consented to the Sizewell B nuclear power station. He was denounced by those Labour members who traditionally receive the votes of the coalminers.

Mr Richard Luce, the Minister for the Arts, defended the level of spending on the arts. He was denounced by the Labour members who traditionally receive the votes of the museum directors, subsidised poets, post-modern choreographers, regional opera administrators, and Sir Peter Hall: workers in an old industry who had so often held the nation to ransom in the past, but who have been bravely resisted by Mrs Thatcher.

Election fever, then, was all about us. Less than 60 miles to the north, Oxford was already voting. A new Chancellor was being chosen – one rarer than any from an Exchequer or a Duchy.

Oxford had until Saturday afternoon to make a choice which could affect the direction of British politics, and certainly the direction of many a High Table camembert. Oxford is fortunate to have a choice between two such men. Both have eaten for Britain in Europe. For the voters, it is a difficult decision.

One of the candidates, Mr Roy Jenkins, had last been seen in the House the previous afternoon. In his unconvincing disguise as member for Glasgow, Hillhead, he had appeared at Scottish questions, perhaps in a last minute bid to clinch the ethnic vote. Trevor-Roper, and Dacre of Glanton, are said to be Border country names, or at least Northumberland. But both are reported to be voting for Mr Edward Heath.

Tactical voting is what this election is about. For the winner, the tactical eating will come later. Between yesterday and Saturday, crude electoral considerations dominate. In the bruising campaign, Mr Jenkins has emerged as the Deirdre Woods of moderation – the candidate of the "loony centre."

Half the stories in the tabloids about his moderation are exaggerated or simply made up. But the tabloids are the only papers which most Oxford MAs read on the subject of politics. Most of the electorate is probably convinced that he is a raving centrist. So the question is: who should the ordinary, decent, extremists vote for?

Here the Thatcherites may have made what could be a great mistake. They – or at least Mr Norman Tebbit – are reported to be urging their people to vote for Mr Edward Heath. In the Commons, Mr Heath sits in the first seat below the gangway – motionless, staring ahead, unsmiling. When he speaks, it is often to lecture about the Third World. A combination of motionlessness, no laughs, and the Third World amounts to grim company at High Table. From that seat below the gangway, Mr Heath has kept all three up since 1975. He could stay as long at High Table.

By urging Tories to vote for Mr Heath rather than Lord Blake (the other candidate who is a Tory) Mr Tebbit could be condemning generations of dons and undergraduates to the dreaded Chancellor's Silence – punctuated by gruff observations about Mexican debt, what it was like to negotiate with Pompidou on sterling as a reserve currency, and "that woman". But if the MAs take Mr Tebbit's advice, so be it.

This seemed to be the view of most of the Commons as they waited for the result. As well as the above-mentioned nuclear power, and the arts, members whiled away the time before the Oxford result by studying the climactic written answer by the Leader of the House, Mr John Biffen, on Cabgate. This was the scandal, which came to light last week, involving an attempt by the clandestine accommodation sub-committee, a tiny all-party group of MPs, to ban non-MPs and non-peers from queuing for taxis at the Members' Entrance. Since the ban would have excluded journalists from the queue, it was seen as an attempt by queuers from the legislature to by-pass a free press.

Mr Biffen's written answer was a triumph for the egalitarian Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) who revealed the scandal. Mr Biffen said the scheme had been postponed for three months. He distanced himself by implying that it all happened on the initiative of the sub-committee. With this written answer to the nation, the Biffen leadership pledged itself to a new beginning. Let us hope it is not too late.

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

WANTED: A RESEARCH BUDGET

Speculation about next Tuesday's Budget has inevitably focused on the scope for cutting income taxes. But the Chancellor will also, we hope, have planned a Budget to help the development of the economy in other ways.

Mr Lawson should have two principal priorities here. Business can look forward with some confidence to tax incentives to encourage profit-related pay and promote both wage flexibility and closer identification by employees with their companies' success. There has yet to be much sign, however, of a positive government reponse to anxieties over the long-term health of Britain, stemming from the relative lack of research, development and innovation in private industry.

Mr Lawson has the opportunity to make a start next Tuesday. The Treasury may justly contend that its greatest contribution lies in providing a stable financial background against which business can plan confidently ahead. That applies particularly to research and innovation, which involves risk and long-term expenditure and is therefore most heavily punished by interest rates several points above those paid by competitors in other countries. Further action to curb inflation, and to contain excessive monetary growth without the need for high interest rates, is therefore essential.

But it is not enough. New industrial countries are taking over basic industries; advanced nations have to spend ever more to keep up with the accelerating pace of technical development. In an ideal world, competitive pressures alone would induce industry to invest enough in research and development to guarantee its future. But in the real world, Britain has stood still while its principal competitors have accelerated their spending.

There have been plenty of voices — not least through the campaign of the Electronic Engineering Association — to remind the Chancellor that industry abroad has had the help of increasing government incentives for innovation. It is not simply that countries such as Germany and Japan are acting to keep their industries in the lead. Others, such as Australia and Singapore, have made specific efforts to attract the mobile research of multinational companies in the knowledge that investment in new industries will follow. Britain has either to compete in this respect or opt out in full knowledge of the consequences.

Mr Lawson should, to start with, build on existing incentives. The Support for Innovation programme has spent £218 million in the current year on selective grants of up to 50 per cent for collaborative projects, 25 per cent for single company projects and limited aid for small firms on patents. Some special extra provision would be welcome. The continued 100 per cent capital allowances for scientific equipment for research should not be so narrowly limited.

There is also a case for more general tax incentives for research and development spending, which is currently treated like any other costs or capital investment. Industry favours the Australian system of allowing 150 per cent of capital or current spending on research and development against corporation tax.

This would be expensive on £2.6 billion of research, although members of the electronics and aerospace industries, which account for the lion's share, would commit themselves to raise spending. The greater objection, however, is that open-ended allowances would unravel the important corporation tax reform of 1984, which exchanged a low rate of tax for the abolition of distorting allowances.

There are alternatives. Japan offers a discount on tax liabilities for companies increasing their research and development spending. Since sticks are often more effective — and cheaper — than carrots, there is much to be said for introducing differential corporation tax rates (or even a penal surcharge) in favour of companies spending heavily on innovation, however inequitable this would seem. New accounting standards and better company disclosure of research and development will, in any case, be necessary to back up tax incentives.

Much more than a helpful Budget will be necessary to establish a coordinated new government programme to promote innovation. But a commitment from the Chancellor would give an important lead.

MIKHAIL GORBACHOV AND HIS JAZZ MEN

The trial of five leaders of the Czechoslovak Jazz Section was widely seen as a test case. It was expected to demonstrate how far Mr Gorbachov's much publicized openness towards cultural diversity had penetrated the countries of Eastern Europe.

In the event, the trial was a good humoured affair — so far as circumstances allowed. The hard-line judge scheduled to hear the case was replaced at the last moment by one of his younger and less ideologically conservative colleagues. The sentences were relatively light.

The outcome bore all the hallmarks of a face saving compromise. On the one hand the authorities signalled that they had no interest in making these jazz officials into martyrs. On the other, they were insisting that they would not be browbeaten by Western, or even perhaps Soviet, pressures into admitting that the original arrests had been wrong.

The question of why the trial was necessary at all remains, however. The accused began as legitimate members of the Jazz Section of the official Musicians' Union. Their popularity encouraged them to diversify into work that was on the fringe of what the authorities would tolerate. In 1984 the Jazz Section was disbanded. Those who continued its activities were now on the wrong side of the law. Their income was designated illegal and they were arrested.

Jazz is regarded throughout Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union as a controversial activity by both its fans and by the authorities. The improvised playing makes it difficult to control. It also requires a knowledge of musical ground rules which gives it a special appeal to intellectuals whose range of self expression in other lines of work is restricted.

The changing political climate made it an especially tricky problem for the Czechoslovak authorities. The Jazz Section was shut down at the time Konstantin Chernenko was trying to exert stricter ideological control over Soviet culture. Its leaders were arrested before Mr Gorbachov's intentions had become clear. The trial was held just as the wind from Moscow seemed set fair for a more liberal cultural climate.

It is no wonder if the conduct of the Czechoslovak authorities in the case has sometimes seemed illogical. But the trial will continue to have wider implications. Appeals have been made repeatedly on behalf of the Jazz Section by Western delegates to the Helsinki follow-up conference in Vienna. While gratifying, the lenient sentences are no reason for the West to relax its pressure.

The five were all found guilty and two others, whose trials were postponed on health grounds, have yet to be tried. In other words, whatever the judge said about not wanting to restrict cultural activity in Czechoslovakia, culture *is* still circumscribed.

The other reason why the trial has special significance is the apparently cool reception accorded by the Czechoslovak authorities to Mr Gorbachov's plans for change in the Soviet Union. Words like reform and revolution — which have only recently lost their stigma in the Soviet lexicon — are still taboo in Czechoslovakia. A Moscow spring, whether in politics or culture or both, has unwelcome overtones for Czechoslovak leaders who came to power by helping to crush something very similar in their own country — at Moscow's behest.

CHOICE FOR THE LIMBLESS

The Artificial Limb and Appliance Service is a corner of the welfare state which has long suffered from inattention and complacency. The statement by Mr John Major, Minister for the Disabled, in the House of Commons on Tuesday is a welcome sign that the Government is now prepared to do something about it.

In 1984 the Government set up a committee to investigate the service under the chairmanship of Professor Ian McColl — a consultant surgeon at Guy's Hospital. Its report made shocking reading. It revealed a depressingly poor quality service, made even worse by the complacent assumption that it was the best possible.

The experience of one Second World War amputee was typical: "He had been wearing above-knee prostheses for about 40 years, supplied by the limb service. In all that time he had suffered severe pain, and had been told repeatedly that the pain was not caused by his fitting but by his medical condition. Through a business colleague he was encouraged to attend a prosthetist (limb fitter) in Israel who supplied with him a new limb in three days which has completely relieved the pain. The relief, he said, was almost indescribable."

British amputees are restricted to limbs made in this country. Half of all new limbs are delivered late. The Artificial Limb and Appliance Service is currently run directly by the civil servants of the DHSS. The report concluded that "they are not capable of controlling the costs, crises, or profits of the companies". It recommended a complete break with the present arrangements and the establishment of a new independent management board.

On Tuesday Mr Major announced that this recommendation would be carried out. He would be setting up an interim management board in the form of a special health authority with effect from July 1 this year. He hoped that by 1991 this service would be properly integrated into the normal management structure of regional and district health authorities.

All the first signs have been favourable. Lord Holderness, an amputee himself, will be the chairman of the interim management board and Professor McColl will be a deputy chairman. This is welcome evidence that the needs of amputees will be given priority and that the reforming momentum of the original report will not be impeded.

But there are still difficult problems ahead. A crucial task for this new board will be to enter that dangerous territory, the professional competence of doctors. If an amputation is performed badly, it makes the subsequent fitting of artificial limbs much more difficult. The British Orthopaedic Association reported that many amputations were performed by surgeons who may have little appreciation of the problems. The McColl report was refreshingly open about the problem of ensuring the quality of medical work when convention requires that all doctors be treated as equally competent.

The Government should next turn its mind to opening up the employment of limb fitters and the supply of artificial limbs to genuine competition. The fitters are not always well trained and are often directly employed by the companies providing the limbs.

The supply of artificial limbs is dominated by a few companies. Orders for limbs appear to be allocated between them in proportion to the number of fitters employed by them at each centre. The DHSS needs to free limb fitters from such control by suppliers and open up the market to new entrants.

The McColl report offers a fascinating insight into the real problems of the NHS. It is striking that neither the original report nor the minister's statement talk much about public money. The real problems are low standards, lack of choice, and inability of patients to exercise consumer power or to leave the system. Better management is part of the answer, but not the whole answer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Labour and the will to win

From Lord Shawcross, QC

Sir, It is arguably better that political leaders should be openly cynical than covertly dishonest. But does it not reflect a low opinion of the intelligence of the British electorate when the leader of a once great party and an ex- and ageing Cabinet minister who still strives after high office can openly urge their party colleagues to suppress their personal opinions upon matters of great public concern since the frank expression of their true views might damage their party's prospects in an election?

On Monday last Mr James Callaghan, in a debate on defence policy in the House of Commons, reiterated his opinion that to give up Trident for nothing would be dangerously contrary to this country's interest.

The next day Mr Denis Healey (now 69) is reported to have said at Truro that this speech had "... done a lot of harm. But ... he is an old man and I think he forgot there is a by-election".

The following day Mr Neil Kinnock, having had time for mature reflection, is reported to have said that "self-discipline" (by which he seems to have meant suppressing one's true opinion) and the object of winning the election were greater than anyone's ego. And Mr John Prescott, a Labour MP, is reported to have made an intemperate attack on Mr Callaghan, saying, "Have you not heard about the election?"

Is it now an accepted part of our political philosophy that individual members of Parliament must conceal their own true opinions in the hope of assisting the election into power of a party which would be publicly committed to a contrary policy upon a matter of grave public importance? Or is this rather just another instance, in the case of Mr Kinnock and Mr Healey, of the old axiom that whilst a statesman thinks of the next generation, a politician thinks of the next election?

I prefer to hope that the British electorate will recognise that Mr Callaghan was once again showing that he consistently and courageously puts what he regards as the interests of the country before those of any political party. The electorate can hardly fail to realize the danger of supporting a party some of whose members are disciplined into suppressing their opinions in order to assist in the election of colleagues who openly express opposite views and would put them into effect if, with such assistance, elected to power.

Yours sincerely,
HARTLEY SHAWCROSS,
House of Lords.
March 12.

From Mr Alexander Llewellyn

Sir, Again Mr Callaghan has given his views on Trident and nuclear disarmament. Mr Heffer (report, March 10) comments that it was "unforgiveable when he did it during the last general election and it is unforgiveable now".

Much is in danger — most of all "government by discussion" — if it is considered "unforgiveable" for a member to express opinions in the House which are widely held outside it.

Yours sincerely,
ALEXANDER LLEWELLYN,
Garrick Club,
Garrick Street, WC2.

From Mr James D. Keir, QC

Sir, Would it not be more seemly and even, more helpful to the image and electoral prospects of the Labour Party if Mr Neil Kinnock could stop referring to his political opponents as "the enemy"? He did it again on Radio 4 this morning when he said that the differing opinions in the Labour Party were distracting attention from the fight against "the enemy".

I am sure Mr Kinnock would be the first to object if Government or Alliance spokesmen were to refer to him as "Leader of the Enemy" and it would be surprising if the holder of such an office were to be paid the salary currently paid to the "Leader of the Opposition".

I am aware, of course, of the Prime Minister's reference to "the enemy within". But it was then clear that she referred to people whom she saw as subverters of the democratic process and not to her political opponents who formed part of that process, in which the existence of and respect for divergent opinions is a *sine qua non.*

Yours faithfully,
JAMES. D. KEIR,
The Crossways, 1 High Street,
Dormansland,
Lingfield, Surrey.
March 11.

Finest hours in British technology

From Sir Bernard Lovell, FRS

Sir, In the article, "How Britain fumbled in its finest hour" (March 5), Mr Correlli Barnett denigrates Britain's development and production efforts during World War II. Since I was the person in TRE (Telecommunications Research Establishment) ordered in January, 1942, to form a group to develop the H2S target-finding device for Bomber Command, may I comment on his statement that the large-scale production in 1942 was delayed?

There were formidable difficulties in transforming a centimetric radar developed for night fighter aircraft for use in heavy bombers. The technical problems were tragically increased on June 7 when a Halifax bomber fitted with our only experimental equipment crashed, killing A. D. Blumlein, the brilliant electronics engineer at EMI, and members of my group.

Churchill, who had been urging the need for this bombing aid, was undeterred and on July 3 summoned those concerned to the Cabinet Room and demanded that we should have two squadrons equipped with H2S in operation by October — "Our only means of inflicting damage on the enemy".

Thus, contrary to Mr Barnett's assertion, the large-scale production of H2S in 1942 was never considered. It was November, 1942, before a replacement for the crashed Halifax equipped with another experimental H2S installation was available for trials by Bomber Command. In the light of these events Mr Barnett would do well to investigate the remarkable organization that then led to the equipment of two dozen heavy bombers with H2S available for operational use by the Pathfinder Force before the end of 1942.

Meanwhile there was anxiety that if one of these bombers crashed over enemy territory the Germans would discover the secret of generating high powers in the centimetric waveband — the magnetron. The Secretary of State for Air ruled that a decision on the operational use of H2S should depend on the war situation, specifically whether the Russians could hold the line of the Volga. It was this ruling, and not production difficulties, that ultimately delayed the operational use of H2S until the night of January 30/31, 1943, when the Pathfinder Force first employed it against Hamburg.

Mr Barnett's further statement that the delay in the production of an improved version in 1943-44 forced Bomber Command to rely on a supply of hand-built equipment does not take account of the course of events. The reference is to a secret arrangement made in my office with Bomber Command to equip six Pathfinder Force bombers with apparatus giving improved definition. This idea was stimulated by the heavy losses suffered during the raids on Berlin in August, 1943, and the failure of the existing H2S to locate the targets in that city.

By mid-November we had delivered these six heavy bombers to the Pathfinder Force and they were then used to lead the sequence of devastating attacks on Berlin, Leipzig and other cities deep in Germany.

The fact that there may eventually have been delays in the production of the H2S for the main bomber force has nothing to do with its major impact in 1943. May I also remind Mr Barnett that it was not a large-scale production but a modification to only 12 of these equipments made by my own group that enabled Coastal Command aircraft to operate over the Bay of Biscay at night in the spring of 1943 with such dramatic effect on the anti-U-boat campaign.

There may well be lessons for today from this history, but they are not those which Mr Barnett draws from the bare statistics. May I suggest that he studies the remarkable and immediate wartime interaction between the research, development, production and operational phases so sadly lacking today.

Yours etc,
BERNARD LOVELL,
The Quinta, Swettenham, Cheshire.
March 9.

Ferry disaster

From Colonel F. E. Richmond-Coggan

Sir, Had the vehicle deck been gridded, with walkways, the bulk of the sea water would have passed through into the bilges. The ferry would still have sunk, of course, but would have remained upright and an orderly evacuation could have taken place.

Townsend Thoresen might even still have had a ship.

Yours faithfully,
F. E. RICHMOND-COGGAN,
Fairlawn,
Maplescombe Lane,
Farningham, Kent.
March 9.

From Mr J. B. H. Byfield

Sir, It is reported that one of the design defects exposed by the cross-Channel ferry disaster concerned the transverse corridors which became unclimbable "lift shafts" when the ship had heeled through ninety degrees.

Such a condition need not arise, at least for those with reasonable agility and strength, if each corridor of this kind had a simple steel ladder welded to the deckhead ("ceiling").

Another design principle, which could be used to serve the same end (but requiring less agility), would be to arrange all such corridors to incorporate *open-tread* stairways running in a *similar across-the-ship direction* so that, no matter which way the ship heeled, one side or the other of the stair treads could be walked upon leading towards, if not to, the ship's side nearer the surface.

In the case of the first option, the potential loss of deckhead height would be trivial and could, in any case, easily be allowed for during initial design without significant commercial loss.

Yours faithfully,
J. B. H. BYFIELD,
Broad Ham,
Burrough Street, Ash,
Martock, Somerset.
March 7.

Prisons dilemma

From Mr Richard Rhodes James

Sir, The report of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders published today (March 6) illustrates with fearful clarity the bankruptcy of our sentencing system.

Our prisons are grossly overcrowded. The courts continue to hand out custodial sentences on a scale unmatched by any other EEC country, assigning the convicted to a form of punishment generally recognised to achieve little except to degrade and to isolate those too dangerous to be at large.

The public cries out for longer sentences. The judges grope, pursued by these cries. Criminologists and prison welfare organizations search for alternatives, but they seem only half listened to. And crowding grows apace.

I believe it was Churchill who said that a nation should be judged by what it does with those who break its laws. Where does that leave us?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD RHODES JAMES,
15 Almoners Avenue, Cambridge.

Giant panda in numbers game

From Professor M. de Havilland

Sir, Why has the World Wildlife Fund suddenly suggested an educational campaign in the giant panda's habitat (report, March 5)? A massive campaign, instigated by Chinese scientists, was launched almost 12 months ago in nearly 5,000 villages and forest farms throughout Sichuan's 26 panda counties.

Villagers and farmers are taught about panda protection and how to cope effectively in emergencies. They are also urged to stop cutting bamboo stalks or shoots, which are popular in Chinese cuisine and Xi Yi (traditional medicine), and to prevent dogs from running wild. Almost every inhabitant has become a dedicated panda guardian.

Special weekly courses were inaugurated in schools early last year. Every primary and secondary school in Pingwu County has had more than 100 hours of panda "tuition" so far. I can personally vouch for the courage of five small primary schoolchildren from the Yangjing township of Baoxing, who went to the rescue of a panda under attack from a jackal, which they drove off with stones.

Why does the World Wildlife Fund still cling to the myth of 1,000 surviving pandas? Having researched the Chinese panda scene in depth over the past four years and made contact with 259 Chinese scientists, zoologists, conservationists, vets, panda reserve staff, forestry workers, farmers and peasant villages, Tibetan as well as Chinese, I conclude that the total may be 300 to 400 at the very most.

In 1946 the communist newspaper *Ta Kung Pao* issued the first warning to an astonished China (and the world) with the front-page banner headline, "Panda in danger of extinction". Its conservationist proprietor, a Sichuanese himself, said in an editorial: "Only about 500, or perhaps less, of our nation's most traditional animal, the panda, which survived the Ice Age, exist today. Spare them!"

The panda, which enjoyed semi-divinity for centuries, is greatly revered by the Chinese, yet only a third of the country's 150 zoos display them. One of China's leading scientists told me: "There are not enough to go round".

Cordially,
M. de HAVILLAND,
China House,
St Mary's Road,
Old Town, Eastbourne, Sussex.
March 10.

The Wiesenthal file

From Mr David M. Parkes

Sir, Many of your readers will have welcomed the conciliatory tone of your leader (March 3) on the Wiesenthal file.

There is another great Christian virtue, that of forgiveness, which eschews the Old Testament doctrine of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.

Time is a great healer and the publicity surrounding the current show trial in Israel serves to demonstrate that the opening up of old wounds causes much greater anguish to the victims and relatives of the victims than it does to the perpetrators of the obscene horrors of 40 or more years ago.

Without forgiveness what hope is there for peace in the Middle East or elsewhere?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID M. PARKES,
The Old Rectory,
Wrington, Avon.
March 4.

Adult smoking

From Mr A. D. C. Turner

Sir, Within the Mark Ellis article (March 9) on general health issues in Britain, he quotes the percentage of adult smokers here as 34 per cent. This is correct for both men and women as far as manufactured cigarettes are concerned, but once hand-rolled cigarettes, pipe smoking and cigars are included, the percentages become 46 per cent for men and 35 per cent for women.

The commonly used overall percentage used for smoking *per se* among the adult population in the United Kingdom is 40 per cent, representing 18 million people.

Yours faithfully,
A. D. C. TURNER,
Tobacco Advisory Council,
Glen House,
Stag Place, SW1.
March 9.

ON THIS DAY

MARCH 13 1929

Henry Segrave (1896-1930) was born in Baltimore and educated in England. He was knighted in 1929 and killed on Windermere a year later when attempting a new water speed record in "Miss England II"

◆

THE NEW MOTOR RECORD.

MAJOR SEGRAVE ON HIS ACHIEVEMENT.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO BE MADE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)
NEW YORK, March 12.

Notwithstanding his great achievement yesterday in establishing a speed record far above anything ever done before in a motor-car, and notwithstanding that he more than once escaped death almost by a miracle, Major Segrave is going to try to get an even higher speed out of his Golden Arrow before he leaves Daytona Beach. He is satisfied that it is capable of doing at least 240 miles an hour.

Major Segrave said last night that the beach was not nearly so good as it was two years ago when he made 203.78 miles an hour with his Sunbeam. "On each run to-day I ran through several patches of water, where I left tracks half an inch deep. These soft places slowed me up and made steering difficulties." On his run northward he said he struck a bump that nearly hurled him from the cockpit. The shock dislodged a tap from the cooling system, and he ended the run with hot-water steam spraying his face. He ended his southward run with the right lateral radiator cracked from end to end. Once when the car struck a pool of water the tail of Golden Arrow gave an angry twist. "I thought the steering wheel was going to be wrenched out of my hands," he said.

He set his course by red bull's-eye lights suspended over the middle of the track, sighting them with a rifle sight and discarding the telescopic sight with which the car was equipped. "Those bull's-eye lights," he said last night, "and sights on the car saved me. Visibility was poor and the beach was difficult. Before going on this job to-day I had a foreboding that things would not go right. Everything had gone so well before under the engineering of Captain Irving and the management of William Sturm, and then when I saw the course I said to myself that the beach was going to 'turn me over.'" But it was fear of not doing the thing he had set out to do that troubled him more than any sense of physical hazard. Mrs. Segrave sat in a box under the judge's stand during the trials and was the first to congratulate him on his feat. But she had seen nothing of it. All the time he was racing she kept her hands before her face, and took them away only when told he had come through safe.

Congratulations poured in upon Major Segrave as soon as his success was known. One of the first messages to arrive from distant places was from Captain Malcolm Campbell, from Cape Town. It said: "Damn good show." The officers and directors of the American Automobile Association sent a telegram from Washington expressing pleasure at the "tremendous speed" which had been maintained without any ill-effects to Major Segrave, and called the accomplishment "a victory won for England."

A WONDERFUL FEAT.

Numerous messages have been sent to Major Segrave, congratulating him on his success in setting up a new world record at Daytona Beach, Florida, on Monday in his Irving Special racing car Golden Arrow.

Among the telegrams sent were the following:—

Sir Charles Wakefield.— My heartiest congratulations on your wonderful feat. We are very proud of you here for regaining world's motor-racing record. May you add further laurels to your brow.

Royal Automobile Club.— Heartiest congratulations from Royal Automobile Club on your magnificent performance. May similar success attend your attempt with Miss England (Major Segrave's racing motor-boat). . .

Naming names

From Mr Gareth Morris

Sir, Mr Leslie Dunkling's letter in today's *Times* (March 6) tells us of Noel Coward's way with "personal identity codes" when he wrote to Lawrence of Arabia. Coward apparently didn't know that in the RAF the first shall be last; he should have written, "may I call you 171 . . .?"

Yours faithfully,

GARETH MORRIS (598),
4 West Mall,
Clifton, Bristol, Avon.
March 6.

Eating primer

From Sir Henry McDowell

Sir, Not only purgative (letter, March 9) but practical as well. Lord Chesterfield

> knew a gentleman who was so good a manager of his time that he would not even lose that small portion of it which the calls of nature obliged him to pass in the necessary-house; but gradually went through all the Latin poets in those moments. He bought, for example, a common edition of Horace, of which he tore off gradually a couple of pages, carried them with him to that necessary place, read them first, and then sent them down as a sacrifice to Cloacina ...

Yours etc.

HENRY McDOWELL,
2 Donne Court,
Burbage Road, SE24.
March 9.

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COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 12: His Excellency Monsieur Hamadi Khouini was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from Tunisia to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Monsieur Mouldi Kéfi (Counsellor), Monsieur Khaled Kaak (Counsellor), Monsieur Abderraouf Bouhachem (Consular Secretary), Monsieur Belhassen Ben Larbi (Secretary [Financial and Administrative Affairs]) and Monsieur Sadok Kassous (Attaché).

Madame Khouini had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir Patrick Wright (Permanent Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Sir David Goodall was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as British High Commissioner to the Republic of India.

Lady Goodall had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

Major Bruce Shand had the honour of being received by The Queen and delivered up his Stick of Office upon relinquishing his appointment as Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant of The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard.

The following Officers of The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard had the honour of being received by Her Majesty: Colonel Greville Tufnell, who delivered up his Stick of Office as Ensign and received his Stick of Office as Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant; Lieutenant-Colonel Shaun Longsdon, who delivered up his Stick of Office as Exon and received his Stick of Office as Ensign and Major Charles Enderby who received his Stick of Office upon his appointment as Exon.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, this morning opened and toured the new Headquarters of the Chartered Society of Designers at 29 Bedford Square, WC1 and afterwards was entertained at luncheon.

His Royal Highness was received by the President of the Society (Mr Michael Wolff).

Major Rowan Jackson, RM was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron-in-Chief, this afternoon visited the Victory Services Club at Seymour Street, W2, where His Royal Highness was received by the Chairman (Air Marshal Sir Frederick Sowrey).

Major Anthony Mather was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a dinner in aid of the Rhino Reserve Appeal (Chairman, Count Coreth) at Buck's Club, Clifford Street, W1.

Mr Brian McGrath was in attendance.

The Duchess of York this morning planted a tree for the Westminster Tree and Preservation Trust in Denbigh Street, Denbigh Place, Pimlico.

Her Royal Highness was received by the Lord Mayor of Westminster (Councillor Mrs Terence Mallinson) and the Trustee of the Trust (Mr Rupert Russell).

Miss Helen Hughes and Wing Commander Adam Wise were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips and Captain Mark Phillips today attended Equitana 1987, the Equestrian Sports World Fair, in Essen, Federal Republic of Germany.

Her Royal Highness and Captain Mark Phillips travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Mrs Malcolm Wallace was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE

March 12: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this morning visited the Royal College of Physicians, and honoured the President (Sir Raymond Hoffenberg) with her presence at luncheon.

Miss Jane Walker-Okeover and Sir Alastair Aird were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

March 12: The Princess of Wales, Patron, Pre-School Playgroups Association, this morning opened the Association's new Headquarters at 61-63 Kings Cross Road, WC1.

Mrs Max Pike and Lieutenant-Commander Richard Aylard, RN were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

March 12: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, as President of the Royal Ballet, was present this evening at a Gala Performance of *Swan Lake* held at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, in aid of the Benesh Institute of Choreology.

The Hon Mrs Wills was in attendance.

Dr and Mrs Hugh R. Overy and Miss Isobel Smith-Gordon regret they were unable to attend the memorial service for Mr Dennis Poore held on Wednesday.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh visits Walker Wingsail Systems plc, at Hamble, Hampshire, at 10.30.

The Princess of Wales, as President of Dr Barnardo's, visits High Close School, Wiltshire Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, at 10.30.

Prince Edward attends a luncheon at the Central Criminal Court given by the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs at 12.40

Princess Anne attends a dinner given by the National Council for Carers and their Elderly Dependants before their national conference, at the Cobden Hotel, Birmingham, at 7.00.

Appointments

Latest appointments include:

Lord Elystan-Morgan to be a circuit judge on the Wales and Chester Circuit.

Mr David Anthony Pirie to be a circuit judge on the Northern Circuit.

Mr P.E. Bullock to be joint registrar for Alnwick, Berwick upon Tweed, Blythe, Hexham, Morpeth, North Shields and Newcastle county courts and joint district registrar of the High Court at Newcastle upon Tyne from April 6.

Lord Gibson-Watt to be Chairman of Timber Growers United Kingdom, in succession to Mr David Landale, who has become Secretary of the Duchy of Cornwall.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Joseph Priestley, clergyman and scientist, Birstall, Yorkshire, 1733; Charles Grey, second Earl Grey, Prime Minister 1830-34, Falloden, Northumberland, 1764; Hugo Wolf, composer of *lieder*, Windischgraz, Austria (Slovent Gradec, Yugoslavia), 1860; Sir Hugh Walpole, novelist, Auckland, New Zealand, 1884.

DEATHS: Richard Barbage, actor, London, 1619; John Daniell, physicist, inventor of the electric cell, London, 1845; Benjamin Harrison, twenty-third President of the United States 1889-93, Indianapolis, 1901; Stephen Vincent Benet, novelist and poet (*John Brown's Body*), New York, 1943; Angela Brazil, writer of girls' school stories, Coventry, 1947.

Churcher's College

At a reception held at Churcher's College, Petersfield, Hampshire, on Tuesday evening, a development appeal for the building of a new hall was launched by Mr A.F. Guy, president of the appeal. Anybody connected with Churcher's College who would like more information is invited to contact the Appeal Secretary, Churcher's College, Freepost, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU31 4BR or telephone Petersfield 66393.

Dinners

Speaker

The Speaker and Mrs Weatherill gave a dinner in Speaker's House yesterday in honour of the President of the Folketing and Mrs Jakobsen. The Danish Ambassador and Mrs Dyvig were also present. The other guests were:

Mr Harold Walker, MP, and Mrs Walker, Mr Clive Landa and Mrs Lynda Chalker, MP, Viscount Craigavon, Mr Jack Dormand, MP, and Mrs Dormand, Mr Hugh Dykes, MP, and Mrs Dykes, Dr Alan Glyn, MP, and Lady Rosula Glyn, Mr Roger King, MP, and Mrs King, Sir Anthony Meyer, MP, and Lady Meyer, Mr George Robertson, MP, and Mrs Robertson, Mr Nicholas Winterton, MP, and Mrs Ann Winterton, MP, Mr Alec Woodall, MP, and Mrs Woodall, Mr David Young, MP, and Mrs Young, Sir Kenneth Bradshaw, Miss Bedelia Brett-Rooks, Mr and Mrs Helge Hiortdal, Canon James Mansel, Mr and Mrs Per Poulsen-Hansen, Mr and Mrs John Sweetman and Mr and Mrs Peter Kilcatt.

HM Government

Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a dinner at 1 Carlton Gardens, in honour of Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila, Foreign Minister of Thailand.

Rhino Rescue Appeal

The Duke of Edinburgh attended the first annual dinner of the Rhino Rescue Appeal held yesterday at Bucks's Club. Count Maurice Coreth was host. Among those present were:

Lord Boardman, Lord Coleridge, Lord Dulverton, the Hon Timothy Sainsbury, MP, Sir Leonard Allinson, Mr Philip Blacker, Mr Ted Hughes, Mr David Shepherd, Mr Laurence Broderick, Mr Robert Clarke, Mr Simon Coombes, Mr William Feldstein, Jr, Mr Brian McGrath, Mr Aris Grammaticus, Mr Malcolm Harrison, Mr Lars-Eric Lindblad, Mr Straun Robertson, Mr Paul Rudder, Mr Keith Shackleton, Mr William Timym and Mr Michael Turner.

Reform Club

Mrs Edwina Currie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, was the speaker at a dinner given by the Economics Group of the Reform Club yesterday. Mr Douglas Llambias was in the chair.

Holborn Law Society

The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster was principal guest at the twenty-fifth annual dinner of the Holborn Law Society held at the Connaught Rooms on Wednesday. Mr Nicolas Robertson, president of the society, presided accompanied by Mrs Robertson, and Lord Templeman also spoke. The Master of the Rolls and Dame Mary Donaldson and the Vice-Chancellor were among those present.

County Planning Officers' Society

Mr Roger Brown, County Planning Officer for Hampshire and President of the County Planning Officers' Society, presided at the annual dinner held yesterday at the Law Society's Hall. The Hon William Waldegrave, Minister of State for the Environment, Dame Jennifer Jenkins, Chairman of the National Trust, and Mr Geoffrey Steeley, County Planning Officer for Hertfordshire, were the principal speakers.

Medical Society of London

Mr John Fernley Newcombe, President of the Medical Society of London, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Savoy Hotel. Lord Smith was the principal guest and speaker.

European-Atlantic Group

The American Ambassador was the guest of honour at a dinner given by the European-Atlantic Group at Guildhall last night to mark the fortieth anniversary of the Truman Doctrine. Lord Chalfont presided and Lord Layton, president of the society, also spoke. Others present included:

The Ambassador of The Netherlands, the Italian Ambassador, the Ambassador of Iceland and other members of the Diplomatic Corps; Viscount Slim, Lord Stewart of Fulham, CH, Lord and Lady Grantchester, Jacqueline Lady Killearn, the Hon Dominick Browne, Sir Antony Buck, QC, MP, Sir James and Lady Dunnett, Sir Peter Marshall, Sir Frank and Lady Roberts, Sir Oliver Wright, Lady Hulton, Sheikh and Sheikha Nezam Khazal Amery, Count and Countess Griaznoff and Count Stanislas Grocholski.

Marriage

Mr D.L. Hardinge and Mrs M.M. Hemmings

The marriage took place on February 10, between Mr Douglas L. Hardinge, of Rowlands Castle, Hampshire, and Mrs Mary Molloy Hemmings (née Budd), of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sale room

Paying for freshness

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

It was a big day for English watercolours at Sotheby's yesterday with records falling like ninepins. Thomas Girtin's view of Durham Cathedral, seen majestically across the river, topped the previous record for his work by more than £10,000 to sell for £81,400 to M. Gregory, a London dealer.

A romantic seascape by Richard Parkes Bonington, "A Cutter with Shipping in a Stiff Breeze off Calais" went to Agnew's at a record £62,700 (estimate £30,000-£40,000).

Both these watercolours were part of a group which had been virtually unknown to watercolour enthusiasts since the nineteenth century. They belonged to Henry Vaughan (1809-1899), most of whose collection was beqeathed to public galleries. This group of watercolours were left as a thank-you present to his executor, John Lewis Roget, son of the man who compiled the famous *Thesaurus*, and were sent for sale by his grandson.

They had been carefully shaded from light and their fresh colours sent prices through the roof. A Girtin view of "Bolton Abbey, Yorkshire" made £36,300 (estimate £6,000-£8,000) and an impressionistic Turner view of "Luxembourg" on blue paper £66,000 (estimate £10,000-£15,000).

Most of the watercolours on offer had been tucked away in private collections and were fresh to the market, which was the secret of their success. This was particularly the case with a Gainsborough pencil study of a seated lady holding a letter, which dated from his years in Bath. It had passed by gift or descent from Gainsborough's daughter, Margaret, and its existence was hitherto unknown. It sold for £70,100 (estimate £30,000-£40,000).

Another spectacular example was the group of Edward Lear watercolours of the holy island of Athos, which again had passed only by gift or descent. Greek collectors descended on the sale to send the pictures far beyond estimate with a record price of £26,400 (estimate £8,000-£12,000) for a dramatic mountain view of "Avion Pavlon". The sale totalled £1,160,027, with only three per cent unsold.

The British Museum, meanwhile, was busy picking up a medieval treasure at Bloomsbury Book Auctions at what a spokesman described as "a very reasonable price". The treasure was the matrix or mould from which one of Henry V's official seals was cast.

It dates from between 1405 and 1413 and is the mould from which the bronze seal used by Henry as Prince of Wales for the Lordship of Carmarthen. It measures seven centimetres across and shows the prince mounted on a galloping horse against a pattern of foliage. It cost the museum £1,155 (estimate £400-£500).

Another curiosity in the same sale was a first edition of Edgar Wallace's *The Four Just Men*, which Dr Crippen, the murderer, took to read on board the SS Montrose when he was escaping to Canada with his mistress. Mr H.G.Kendall, commander of the ship, kept it as a memento. It was bought back by Kendall's grandson for £121 (estimate £80-£120).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.R. Gilyead and Miss J.E. Bronsdon

The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of the Rev John and Mrs Gilyead, of Ilkley, Yorkshire, and Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Bronsdon, of Ampfield, Hampshire.

Mr G.C.M. Harling and Miss L.M. Graham

The engagement is announced between Graham Charles M. Harling, of Wapping, London, only son of Mrs E.B.M. Harling, of Westcliff, Essex, and Linda, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Graham, of Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire.

Mr K.C. Hunt and Miss A.L. Burrow

The engagement is announced between Keith, eldest son of Mrs V. Hunt, of Sydney, Australia, and Amanda, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs B. Burrow, of Lennox Heads, New South Wales, Australia.

Mr W.B. Martin and Miss S.D. Lawrence

The engagement is announced between William, eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Martin, of Denny Abbey, Waterbeach, Cambridge, and Susan, only daughter of Commander and Mrs John Lawrence, of Berryhill House, Newburgh, Fife.

Mr A. Newman and Miss P.J. Chapman

The marriage will take place on September 26, between Adrian, only son of the late Major C.W. Newman, RE, retd, and Mrs D.E. Newman, of Braunton, Devon, and Pippa, youngest daughter of Mrs L.C. Wood, of Fetcham, Surrey, and Mr C.D. Chapman, of Hayes Common, Kent.

Mr D.R.E. O'Kelly and Miss P.A. Maxwell

The engagement is announced between David Richard Ellison O'Kelly, The Green Howards, elder son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs R.W.E. O'Kelly, of Warthill, York, and Penelope, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J.L. Maxwell, of New Galloway, Castle Douglas.

Mr R.P. Steele and Miss A. Trethewey

The engagement is announced between Rupert, only son of Mr and Mrs R.M. Steele, of Sydenham, Kent, and Anna, daughter of Dr and Mrs J. Trethewey, of Aberystwyth, Dyfed.

Mr P.C.N. Tracey and Miss A-M. Jeffries

The engagement is announced between Paul, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Tracey, of Tunbridge Wells, and Anne-Marie, eldest daughter of Major Anthony Jeffries, of Northampton, and Mrs Mary Jeffries, of Canterbury.

Captain R.G.P. Wyatt and Miss F.J. Pickard

The engagement is announced between Robin Wyatt, REME, eldest son of Mr G.F. Wyatt, of Fareham, Hampshire, and Mrs E.A. Wyatt, of Chesham, Buckinghamshire, and Fiona, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs R.W.G. Pickard, of Chartridge, Buckinghamshire. The marriage will take place in October.

The marriage between Mr C.A. Fountaine and Miss S.J. Oliver will not take place.

University news

Professor Peter Mathias, Chichele professor of economic history at Oxford University, has been pre-elected into the Mastership of Downing College, Cambridge from October 1.

He will succeed Professor Sir John Butterfield who retires from the mastership and from the regius professorship of physic on September 30.

Bath

Grant

UK Atomic Energy Authority, Harwell: £76,255 to Dr M P Ansell to buy equipment to study the fatigue evaluation of wood laminates for the design of 100m diameter wind turbine blades.

Luncheon

Royal College of Physicians

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was entertained at luncheon yesterday by Sir Raymond Hoffenberg, President of the Royal College of Physicians. Dr D.A. Pyke, Dr A.M. Dawson, Dr A.E. Read, Dr W.B. Mathews, the Censors and other members of the council of the college were present.

Birthdays today

Mr Walter Annenberg, 79; Sir Gordon Borrie, QC, 56; Mr Terence Brady, 48; Professor C.O. Brink, 80; Sir Terence Burns, 43; Lord Butterworth, 69; Miss Lesley Collier, 40; Mr Myles Formby, 86; Sir Gilbert Inglefield, 78; Mr Ian Leslie, 82; Sir Robert Mark, 70; Air Commodore H.F. Renton, WRAF, 56; Major-General D.A.L. Wade, 89.

Service dinner

Military Government, Land Steiermark

Lord Caccia was in the chair at the annual reunion dinner of the former Officers of the Military Government, Land Steiermark (Styria) Austria held yesterday at the Honourable Artillery Company, Armoury House. Major Gordon Shingleton was host and the guests of honour were the Ambassador of Austria and Frau Thomas and Professor Kurt Jungwirth, Deputy Provincial Governor of Styria.

Memorial service

Mr R.D. Poore

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Dennis Poore was held at St Lawrence Jewry-next-Guildhall, on Wednesday, March 11. Canon David Burgess officiated. Mr Jamie Borwick, son-in-law, read the lesson and the address was given by Mr G.S. Stone, Chairman of Manganese Bronze Holdings plc. Among those present were:

Mrs Poore, Mrs Jamie Borwick, Sir Eldred and Lady Smith-Gordon, Mr Lionel Smith-Gordon.

The Duke of Hamilton, the Earl of Selkirk, QC, and the Countess of Selkirk, Lord McAlpine of Moffat, Mr Edward Poore-Saurin-Watts, Mr Andrew Poore-Saurin-Watts, Mr and Mrs John Fischel, Mr and Mrs David Fischel, Miss Emma Fischel, Mr and Mrs Herbert Despard, Mr Patrick Despard, Mrs J Kendall, Mr John Despard, Mr Richard Despard, Mr and Mrs J Davies-Gilbert, Miss P Davies-Gilbert, Mrs S Tellwright, Mrs Sonia Creighton, Mrs B Sullivan, Mr John Sullivan, Mr and Mrs T Eustance, Mr R Riley, Mrs P O'Hagan, Mr Geoffrey Grant.

The Earl of Dartmouth, Viscount Caldecote, the Hon T H Hazlerigg, Sir Walter and Lady Salomon, Sir Alexander and Lady Bethune, Sir Leslie Bowes, Lady Cunliffe-Owen, Sir Clement Penruddock, Sir Brandon Rhys Williams, MP, and Mrs Rhys Williams, Sir Giles Montagu-Pollock.

Mr W N Hillier, Mr J B Smith, Mr J W Lennox and Miss M Buist (directors, past director and company secretary, Manganese Bronze Holdings); Mr R D Paterson, Mr S G Leavesley, Mr B Widdowson, Mr Spen King, Mr A W Overton, Mr E Osmond, Mr A Paris and other senior executives of the Manganese Bronze Holdings group; Mr Geoffrey Fawn with directors and senior executives, past and present, of Norton Villiers Triumph group companies; Mr S C Cousins (Federated Trust Corporation) and other colleagues and members of staff and their ladies.

Mr D C Woolston, Mr M.J. Chapman and Mr E J Harris (Midland Bank); Mr W J A Dacombe and Mr A A Hall (Rea Brothers); Mr John B Kinross (3i's); Mr P A G Taylor (F L P Secretan and Company); Mr T Burton, Mr D Schroeder and Mr A J Robinson (Binder Hamlyn); Mr R G A Youard and Mr R A M Welsford (Slaughter and May); Mr J M Iredale and Mr J D Naylor (Cork Gully); Mr M Makin (Nash Broad); Mr K R Grimston (J & F Anderson, WS); Mr M D C Arnell (Sedgwick UK); Mr John T Caff (CBI); Mr Michael Ware (representing the National Motor Museum); Mr D Michael and Mr S Thorn (Guidehouse Group); Mr Peter Hooper (Blyth Dutton); Mr Y Yasuoka (Nomura International).

Mr and Mrs G Abecassis, Mr D Atcherley, Mrs Stefan Bauer, Mr H Bengough, Mr Michael Boreham, Mr and Mrs Donald Box, Captain David Buchan of Auchmacoy, Mr R Burrows, Mr W B Charity, Mr N L Cragoe, Mr H Cunningham, Mr Mark Dixon, Mrs George Dowson, Mr Julian Earl, Mr Louis Fuchs, Mrs A Hanbury, Mr R T Hodges, Mr David Holland, Mr and Mrs J Jarvis, Mr David Kingsley, Miss I Kuhn, Mr J K Liddle, Mr Harry Louis, Mr Malcolm H McAlpine, Mr R Allngton Maguire, Mr and Mrs A W Mallinson, Mr Walter Marlowe, Mr B Maude-Roxby, Mr and Mrs Dudley Miller, Mr R V C Montgomerie-Charrington, Mr and Mrs G F K Morgan, Mr A G A Morrison, Mr H Myles, Mrs John Neville, Miss Sophie Neville, Mr J C Noon, Miss Christina Norbert, Mr H M Palin, Mr John Paton, Mrs James Pollard, Mr Graham Poumney, Mr M D Preston, Mr Claude Rodrigue, Mr and Mrs R A W Rudd, Mr and Mrs Philippe Le Roux, Mr William Salomon, Mr L M Singleton, Mr Duncan Simonds, Mr Oliver Smedley, Mr and Mrs Eric Thompson, Mr R Walter, Mr B Winham, Mrs Adam Wise, Mr George Yates and other friends.

The King's School Canterbury

The following have been elected to:

Music scholarships: S.J. Dawson-Bowling, Junior King's School; J.R. White, Ashdown House; Katherine White, Michael Hall; B.M. Stevenson, St John's College, Cambridge; Susanna Birzberg, Haberdasher Aske's School for Girls; M.J. Hamilton, Christ Church Cathedral School, Oxford; C.I. Jepp, Dulwich College Preparatory School, Cranbrook; E.C. Kerr, St Edmund's Junior School, Canterbury; A.A.G. Driskill-Smith, Yardley Court; C.A.L. Pattman, Junior King's School.

Honorary music scholarships: Elinor Corp, Blackheath High School for Girls; S.E.Mohr, King's School, Canterbury.

King's scholarships: Caroline Williams, St Paul's School for Girls; Helena Parsons, Simon Langton School for Girls, Canterbury (OKS Trust Scholarship).

OBITUARY

PROF PETER BAKER

Mechanics of cell life

Professor Peter Baker, FRS, biologist, died on March 10 as a result of a heart attack. He was 47.

While still a schoolboy he published an ecological note on the earwig; and, as an undergraduate, he carried out research at Rothamstead, which resulted in an article on aphid behaviour on sugar beet.

He was a somewhat inhibited young man, unlike the outgoing and enthusiastic personality that he subsequently became – who, whenever he came to stay, was often accompanied by a large collection of living sawflies on which he was doing research.

Peter Frederick Baker was born on March 11, 1939. He was educated at Lincoln School and Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he read natural sciences.

After qualifying, he moved to the physiology department at Cambridge, dividing his time between there and the marine biological laboratory at Plymouth.

With the late Dr Trevor Shaw, he almost immediately made a breakthrough in showing that after the protoplasm had been squeezed out of giant nerve fibre, conduction of electrical impulses could be restored by perfusing the remaining membrane and sheath with an appropriate solution.

Alan Hodgkin soon joined them, and the collaboration resulted in a series of papers which refined the ionic theory of nerve conduction.

At the same time, Baker began a study of phosphorous metabolism and its relation to the pumping mechanism which maintains concentration differences of sodium potassium between the inside and outside of many living cells.

This led to experiments on the way in which living cells maintain an extremely low level of ionized calcium in their interiors and the importance of this phenomenon for cell life.

Baker was a fellow of Emmanuel College (1962 to 1974) and a university lecturer at Cambridge (1966 to 1974).

In 1975 he accepted the Halliburton Professorship of Physiology at King's College, London, where, with the minimum of fuss, he transformed a sleepy laboratory into an active centre of research as well as a fine teaching department.

He successfully fought off an attempt to suppress clinical teaching of physiology at King's, and promoted the fusion of the college with Queen Elizabeth and Chelsea colleges. The merger was completed in August 1985 and was cemented by Baker's appointment as dean of medical sciences.

While at King's he remained active in experimental work in spite of the many demands on his time. The main subject of his research was the mechanism of secretion from cells in the adrenal medulla.

He also managed to keep up his visits to the Plymouth laboratory where he continued work on giant nerve fibres and on fertilization – another of his many interests.

Baker was never one to shirk hard work. He acted as secretary and chairman of the editorial board of *The Journal of Physiology*, and he was an energetic member of the Medical Research Council's board on neuro-sciences.

He published two books: *Calcium Movement in Excitable Cells* (with H. Reuter, 1975) and *The Squid Axon* (1984).

His wife, Phyllis Light, whom he married in 1966, survives him with their son and three daughters.

MR FYODOR GUSEV

Mr Fyodor Gusev, Soviet ambassador in London from 1943 to 1946, died on March 10.

Fyodor Tarasovich Gusev was born in 1905. At the age of 26 he graduated from the Leningrad Institute of Economic Planning, and thenceforward, until 1935, served on the staff of the economic planning commission of the Leningrad area.

In 1935, however, his interest was turning to the diplomatic service, and in that year he entered the Soviet Institute for Diplomatic and Consular Officials, where he learned English and made a special study of British institutions. He graduated from the institute in 1937.

Gusev's ability did not go unnoticed, and in August 1942 he was appointed diplomatic representative of the Soviet Union in Canada – Russia's first minister to the Dominion.

On his arrival in Ottowa he was accorded a popular welcome exceptional in its fervour. Canadians regarded him as a symbol as well as a personality; but when, a year later, he was recalled to Moscow, he was as much of an enigma as when he had arrived in Canada.

Then, in 1943, after only six years in the Soviet diplomatic service, Gusev was appointed ambassador to the Court of St James's in succession to Ivan Maisky.

During his time as ambassador he also took pat in the talks between Great Britain, the United States and the USSR at Teheran, Yalta and Potsdam, and served is Soviet representative on theEuropean Advisory Commission (1943-5), which drew up the terms of capitulation and occupation of enemy states. He was also a participant in the work of the Sovie delegation to the United Nations and in the deliberations of the Allied foreign ministes.

He was noted for his interest in British parliamentary discussion, and was a frequent visitor to the often empty diplomatic gallery n the House of Commons.

In August 1946 theSoviet Council of Ministers promoted him to the post of a vice-minister of foreign affairs and in the same year he was elected a deputy of the Supreme Soviet.

In September 1946, though, he relinquished his post as Soviet ambassador in London, returning to Moscow for a further spell with the ministry of foreign affairs.

Then, in 1956, he was appointed Soviet ambassador to Sweden, a post he held until 1962. He retired in 1975.

MR C. J. LEAR

Mr C. J. "Tiny" Lear, editor of the *News of the World* from 1970 to 1973, died on March 11. He was 75.

Lear, whose 6ft 2in stature invited his absurd nick-name, was a well-liked figure around Fleet street for a number of decades after the war.

Cyril James Lear was born on September 9, 1911. He went to Hoe Grammar school Plymouth, and joined the local paper, the *Western Morning News*, in 1928. Later he went to the *Daily Mail*, and just before the war joined *The Daily Telegraph*.

He had already become a territorial in the 2nd Battalion Queen's Westminsters, and when war came he joined the Berkshire Regiment, serving in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

In 1946 he went to the *News of the World*, where he spent most of the rest of his working life.

Lear was a sub-editor to his fingertips, but a highly literate one. He could dress up the gleanings from provincial newspapers which formed so great a part of the diet of the *News of the World* of those early post-war times, and give them style and wit.

His contemporaries admired the way he could breathe life into the dross of the average pile of cuttings.

He was for many years the paper's chief sub-editor, subsequently proceeding through higher appointments to take over the editorship in 1970 after the sudden departure of Stafford Somerfield.

The appointment was in the nature of an interim one, but Lear stayed for three years. He was less flamboyant than his predecessor, but was good at coaxing his team into action.

During his editorship, to be sure, the *News of the world* failed to capitalise out of the Lambton case – a call-girl scandal of the type dearest to its heart – but this was attributed by some to his caution and dislike of vulgarity.

Genial and pipe-smoking he was the kind of man the imagination of a Hollywood producer might have cast as the typical English general.

He moved from the editorship to become editorial manager of News Group Newspapers in 1974.

A devout Roman Catholic, he leaves his widow, Marie, four sons, and a daughter.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.
Galatians 3 : 9

BIRTHS

CROFT - On March 8th, at St. Albans City Hospital, to Cora (née Haigh) and Michael, a son, Sebastian Downton, a brother for Fiona.

CULLINANE - On March 10th, at St Thomas's Hospital, London, to Jane and John, a son, Ruairi, a brother for Laura.

DARTON - On March 10th, to Sarah (née Binns) and Kim, a son, James Theo Harwood.

DORRIEN-SMITH - On March 11th, to Emma and Robert, a son, Michael Horace.

DOUGLAS - On March 5th, at Lewisham Hospital, to Avril (née Bryans) and Andrew, a son, Aidan Langton.

GODSELL - On March 8th 1987, to Catherine (née Chisnell) and Robert, a daughter, Elizabeth Helen.

HARDING - On March 8th 1987, at Greenwich Hospital, London, to Susan (née McGill) and Mark, a daughter, Felicity Jane.

HORSLEY - On January 21st 1987, in Vancouver, Canada, to and Sarah (Née Russell) and Nigel, a second son, Nigel Alexander Ross Lovell.

KEELEY - On March 10th 1987, in Harare, to Felicity (née Ashworth) and Duncan, a son, Alex James.

KINDE - On March 4th 1987, to Marianne (née Wylson) and Jakob, a son, Christian.

MAKOWER - On March 11th, to Dolores (Lola) and Richard, a daughter Emily Elizabeth, a sister to Timothy.

MEAKIN - On March 10th, at Queen Mary's, Roehampton, to Vicki (née LeRoy-Lewis) and George, a daughter Clare, a sister for Daisy and Nicholas.

PARKER - On 10th March 1987, to Jackie (née Loche) and Lance, a son, Jonathan Alistair Corris, a brother for Catherine.

PICKLES - On March 9th, to Cherry and Crispian, a daughter Rose.

STRETTON - On March 11th, to Lynn (née Holford) and Ian, a son, Benjamin William Holford.

TOLLEMACHE - On March 11th 1987, to Rosie and Hugh, a son.

WELSH - On March 12th, at St Asaph, to Maureen (née Walsh) and Neil, a son, David William, a brother for Mark and Anne.

DEATHS

ANDREWS - On March 10th 1987, peacefully at home in Northwood, Middlesex, Donald. Beloved father of Graeme, Michael, Adrian and husband of the late Eveline. Funeral Service at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip, Middlesex on Wednesday March 18th at 11am. Flowers or donations if desired to British Heart Foundation, c/o M K Ginder Funeral Directors 172 St Albans Road, Watford, Herts. Tel:(0923) 47427.

BAKER - On Tuesday March 10th 1987, unexpectedly Professor Peter Frederick F.R.S., Halliburton, Professor of Physiology, King's College, London aged 47. Much loved husband of Pyllis, adored and admired father of Lucy, Sara, Alexander and Charlotte. Only dear son of Frederick Thomas and Doris Baker of Lincoln. Funeral service at Bourn Church on Thursday March 19th, at 12.15pm followed by cremation. Family flowers only.

BASSETT - On March 11th, peacefully in hospital, Roger, very dear husband of Wizz and dearest brother of Letitia and Peggy. Cremation service at Putney Vale Crematorium on Tuesday March 17th, at 12.15pm. Family flowers only to: Kenyons, 74 Rochester Row, SW1, by 10am please.

CASEMENT - On March 10th, unexpectedly but peacefully, while fishing, Captain Roddie Casement, O.B.E., Royal Navy, in his 80th year, very beloved husband of Betty, and very dear father and grandfather. Funeral at Rogate Church on Tuesday March 17th at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Royal British Legion (Rogate and Terwick Branch).

CHILDS - On March 11th 1987, at Winchcombe Hospital, peacefully after a short illness Christine Joan Childs (née Hallick), wife of Stanley H. Childs, mother of Geoffrey. Funeral service at St.Peter's Church, Winchcombe, on Tuesday March 17th, at 2.45pm. No flowers by request.

CORCORAN - On February 23rd, suddenly in Malindi, Kenya, Tony, beloved husband of Suzanne and father of Tasmin and Richard. Dearly missed by his family and his old Tusker friends.

COURAGE - On March 11th, of Kirkby Fleetham, North Yorkshire, Captain Peter Edgar aged 64, late First King's Dragoon Guards. Husband of Julienne, father of John, Veronica, Susan and Belinda. Funeral Service St Mary's Church, Kirkby Fleetham, Monday March 16th at 2.00pm. Flowers may be sent, or if preferred, donations sent to North Yorks Cancer Research Campaign, 9 East Parade, Harrogate.

DAVIES - On March 11th 1987 peacefully in his sleep, at home, Hugh Griffith, aged 51, beloved husband of Trudy and adored father of Nicole, Pamela and Timothy, loved by all who knew him, he will be deeply missed. Funeral Service at St Thomas' Roman Catholic Church, Woodbridge, Suffolk, at 2pm on Wednesday 18th March.

FAWCETT - On March 10th 1987, Henry Tatham Fawcett, dearly loved husband of Felicia. Funeral service at The Church of The Good Shepherd, Tadworth at 3.00pm on Monday March 16th. No flowers, but donations if desired to Tadworth Court Hospital.

FORDE - On March 10th 1987, peacefully, at Downe Hospital, Kay beloved mother and step-mother of Michael and Eveleigh, Patrick and Sylvia, loving Granny. Funeral Service in Seaforde Church at 11am on Friday March 13th. Followed by private Cremation. Family flowers only, donations in lieu to R.N.L.I., Newcastle, County Down.

HIRSCHFELD - On March 10th, aged 82, Konrad Hirschfeld, C.B.E., of 23 Killara Avenue, Brisbane, Queensland 4007, *Australia.*

ILLINGWORTH - On Wednesday March 11th 1987, peacefully at home, Rear Admiral Philip Holden Crothers Illingworth CB (retired). Dearly loved husband of Dorothy, and adored by his family, Guy, Sally, Richard, Michael, Norman, Sophie and his thirteen grandchildren. Private funeral. Thanksgiving Service to be arranged at a later date. No flowers please. Donations if desired in aid of St Mary's Church, Marston Magna, Yeovil, Somerset, c/o the Curate.

LEAR - On Wednesday March 11th, Jim (Tiny) Lear, aged 75, at home in Newick. Funeral at St.Philip Neri, Uckfield, Sussex, at 10.15 Monday March 16th.

MARSHALL - On Tuesday March 10th, in his 80th year, Clement Frederick O.B.E., much loved husband of Marjorie and beloved father of Hazel and Adrian. Funeral at Bottisham Parish Church, Cambridgeshire, on Tuesday March 17th 1987 at 2.00pm. Donations if desired to: The Parkinson's Disease Society, 36 Portland Place, London W1N 3DG. Enquiries to Harry Williams and Sons Funeral Directors. Tel: 0223 369480.

NORMAN - On Sunday 8th March 1987, Lieutenant Colonel The Right Rev Sir Edward Kinsella, KBE, DSO, MC, MID, US legion Of Merit, Assistant Bishop of Lichfield, formerly Bishop of Wellington, New Zealand, 26th Battalion 2N.Z.E.F. Dearly loved husband of Margaret of Lichfield and loved father and father in law of Elizabeth and Crispin Kay, Rosemary and Greg Dayman, Alison and Richard Kay and Judith, and loved grandfather of his six grandchildren, all of New Zealand. Funeral Service at Lichfield Cathedral on Friday 13th March at 2pm. Memorial Service at St Paul's Cathedral, Wellington, New Zealand, on Friday 13th March at 1pm. No flowers please.

RABENECK - On March 11th 1987, Olga, aged 94 years. Funeral service on Thursday March 19th, at 11am in The Russian Orthodox Church, Ennismore Gardens, SW7. All enquiries and flowers to J.H. Kenyon, 49 Marloes Road, London. Tel 01 937 0757

RAKE - On March 9th 1987, at Horton Hospital, Banbury, Charles, beloved husband of Peggy, and father of Paul and Sallie. Cremation, followed by Service of Thanksgiving and interment, at Church of the Holy Cross, Byfield, on Tuesday 17th March, at 2.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to British Tinnitus Association, 105 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AH.

REUSS - On March 10th, Anthony John Lawson, beloved husband of Jean and a dear father, grandfather and brother. Service of Thanksgiving for his life at St Edmunds Church, Southwold on Friday March 27th at 2.45pm.

SAUNDERS - On March 11th 1987, peacefully in her sleep, Lyle Mary. Dearly loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium at 2.30pm on Wednesday March 18th. Flowers to J.H. Kenyon Ltd, 49 Marloes Road, W8. Telephone 01 937 0757.

SKINNER - On March 11th 1987, peacefully, Lt Col Denzil Robert Skinner, late RTR, aged 78 years. Beloved husband of Elizabeth and father of Geoffrey, Mark, Denzil and Leo. Funeral private. No flowers, donations to Royal British legion.

SMITH - On March 10th 1987, peacefully at Sandy, Bedfordshire, after a long illness bravely borne, Mary Wilhelmina aged 77 years. Widow of the late Jack Smith, late of Welwyn Garden City. Cremation Service at West Herts Crematorium, High Elm Lane, Garston, Herts on Tuesday 17th March at 10.45. Sadly missed by family and friends. Cut flowers only to G & H Seamer, 47 High Street, Sandy, Beds or donations to the Parkinsons Disease Society, 36 Portland Place, London W1.

STOGDON - On March 10th, Fay, dear wife of Joe, and mother of Christine, Roy and Richard. Requiem 11.30am on Tuesday March 17th at St.Mary Mother of Christ, Crowborough.

WARD - On March 10th, in Nairobi, Sara Madeleine (Sal), (née Thresher) widow of Kendall, dear mother of Antony, Ming and Francis, grandmother of Valerie, Katrina, Sean and Adam.

WARNER - On March 10th 1987, peacefully at her home in Croydon, Grace Warner, in her 102nd year. Daughter of the late John and Alice Warner of Waddon. Funeral at Croydon Crematorium on March 18th 1987, at 10.15am. Flowers and enquires to Ebbutt's, 89 High St Croydon. No letters by request.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

COSTAIN - A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Albert Percy will be held at the parish church of St.Mary and St.Eanswythe, Folkestone on Friday April 3rd, at 12 noon. Enquiries to 6 West Cliff Garden, Folkestone.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

MILLAR - NICOLA GLEN, remembering with love dearest Nicki, died 13th March 1969.

OWEN - In loving memory of Bernice (Bernie), March 13th 1986. Deeply missed by mother Nell, sister Val and Neil, this and every other day.

SOSNOW - In loving memory of my dear son Norman, who was killed in an air crash on the 13th March 1967. At the young age of 23. Lovingly remembered by his mother and sister and all his family.

WHELDON - In memory of Huw who died on Friday morning 14th March 1986. Dearly loved husband of Jay, father and dearest friend of Sian, Megan and Wynn.

Science report

Keeping brain cells alive after injury

By Judy Redfearn

An injury to one part of the brain or spinal cord often results in damage to cells in another part, sometimes as much as a metre away from the original injury. New research in the United States has confirmed why this should be and has laid the foundation for possible treatments.

Cells of the nervous system, or neurone, communicate with each other by means of fibres which radiate from the cell body. The trouble comes when fibres, known as axons, stretching to a distant neurone, are severed. Earlier work had suggested that the distant neurones may suffer because they no longer receive a substance essential for their well-being which is normally transmitted along the axons.

One of the substances essential for the health of at least some types of neurone is called nerve growth factor. This is produced in an area of the brain known as the hippocampus. And Dr Lawrence Kromer, of Georgetown University, Washington DC, who is responsible for this latest work, identified a class of brain cells in another area of the brain called the medial septum, that respond well to it.

So he set out to test whether the artificial administration of nerve growth factor would affect the survival of neurones in the medial septum whose axons extending into the hippocampus had been severed.

He performed his experiments on rats. Eighty pencent of the *medial* septum neurones which did not receive *nerve growth factor* were dead two weeks after the axons were cut. But only 15 per cent of the same neurones died in the same period when the factor was administered.

To achieve such survival rates, though, it was essential to start giving the factor very soon after the injury. "If you wait for six days", says Dr Kromer "about 60 per cent of the cells have already died". One remaining uncertainty is knowing for how long it needs to be administered, and that is to be the subject of Dr Kromer's future investigations. He is exploring ways of making the damaged axons regenerate.

The particular medial septum neurones that Dr Kromer has studied play a vital role in memory and learning. Situations in which they may be damaged include surgery to treat a brain tumour and some strokes. Their gradual degeneration is also responsible for Alzheimer's disease.

One task for the future will be to identify other classes of neurone that respond in a similar way to nerve growth factor. Another will be to find different but similar factors that are responsible for the well-being of yet another neurone types.

"We already know of two or three other factors that promote survival in the peripheral nervous system (nerves outside the brain and spinal cord)", says Dr Kromer. "We need to identify more and more and the cells which respond to them".

Source: *Science*, January 1987, pp214-217.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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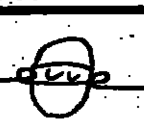

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COMPANY NOTICES

CANADIAN PACIFIC LIMITED

At a meeting of the Board of Directors held today, a quarterly dividend of twelve cents (12c) per share on the outstanding Ordinary Shares was declared, payable in Canadian funds on April 18, 1987, to shareholders of record as at the close of business on March 27, 1987.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
D.J. Deegan
Vice-President and Secretary
Montreal, March 9, 1987

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
No. 0048 of 1987
CHANCERY DIVISION
MR REGISTRAR BRADBURN
IN THE MATTER OF
UNITED ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF TRADE LIMITED
- and -
IN THE MATTER OF
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PETITION was on the 25th February 1987 presenting to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for (1) the sanctioning of a Scheme of Arrangement proposed to be made between the above-named Company (hereinafter called "the Association") and its Ordinary Members and UAPT-Infolink Plc and Infolink Limited and (2) an Order under Section 427(2) of the above mentioned Act that it may be ordered that the whole of the undertaking and all of the property assets rights and powers of the Association (other that the Retained Assets as defined in the said Scheme of Arrangements) be transferred to and vested in Infolink Limited (hereinafter called "Infolink") for all the estate and interest of the Association but subject to all mortgages and charges (if any) then effecting the same or any part of parts thereof without further act or deed, that all the debt liabilities and obligations of the Association (other than the Retained Liabilities as so defined) be transferred to and become the liabilities and obligations of Infolink, and that all proceedings (if any) now pending by or against the Association be continued by or against Infolink.

AND NOTICE is further given that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr Justice Vinelott at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2, on Monday the 23rd day of March 1987.

Any person whose interests may be affected by any Order made under Section 427(2) as aforesaid and desirous of being heard on the said Petition should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

DATED 13th March 1987
Norton Rose Botterell & Roche
Kempson House
Camomile Street
London EC3A 7AN
Ref: DBA/63/E177047
Tel: 01 283 2434

TO THE CREDITORS OF
HIREPLANT (CONTRACT CRUSHING) LIMITED

We, Michael A. Jordan and Robin M. Addy of Cork Gully, Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ, the administrative receivers of the above named company, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that creditors of the company may obtain, free of charge, copies of the report we have prepared under section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 by applying to us in writing at the above address (quoting reference SH 518)

6 March 1987
R.M. ADDY

TO THE CREDITORS OF
FREDERICK PARKER PROPERTIES LIMITED

We, Michael A. Jordan and Robin M. Addy of Cork Gully, Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ, the administrative receivers of the above named company, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that creditors of the company may obtain, free of charge, copies of the report we have prepared under section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 by applying to us in writing at the above address (quoting reference SH 518)

6 March 1987
R.M ADDY

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF
FREDERICK PARKER PROPERTIES LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named company will be held at The Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ on Monday 23 March 1987 at 4.00pm for the purposes of having laid before it the report prepared by the administrative receivers in accordance with the said section and, if thought fit, appointing a committee.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or vote at the meeting. Creditors who are partly secured may only vote in respect of the balance of the amount due to them after deducting the value of the security as estimated by them. A creditor in respect of a debt due on, or secured by, a bill of exchange or promissory note must treat the liability of any person who is liable on the bill antecedently to the company as security held by him (unless that other person is subject to a bankruptcy order in liquidation).

Creditors wishing to vote at the above meeting must lodge a written statement of their claims with us at Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ no later that 12 noon on Friday 20 March 1987. Proxies intended to be used at the meeting must also be lodged with us by that time.

DATED this 6 day of March 1987
M A JORDAN and R M ADDY
ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
No. 00193 of 1987
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE PACIFIC INVESTMENT TRUST plc
- and -
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 27th February 1987 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for (a) the sanctioning of a Scheme of Arrangement and (b) the confirmation of the reductions of the CAPITAL of the above-named company in two stages (i) from £20,000,000 to £7,438,436 by cancelling 50,246,260 Share of 26p each of the said Company in accordance with the said Scheme of Arrangement and (ii) from £20,000,000 to £17,561,565 by cancelling 9,753,740 Shares of 26p each of the said Company

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr Justice Vinelott at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Monday the 23rd day of March 1987.

Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

DATED this 10th day of March 1987
STEPHENSON HARWOOD
Saddler's Hall
Gutter Lane
Cheapside
London EC2V 6BS
Ref: 45/198
Solicitors for the above-named Company

IN THE MATTER OF
THE FREDERICK PARKER GROUP PLC (IN RECEIVERSHIP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named company will be held at Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ on Monday 23 March 1987 at 2.30pm for the purposes of having laid before it the report prepared by the administrative receivers in accordance with the said section and, if thought fit, appointing a committee.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or vote at the meeting. Creditors who are partly secured may only vote in respect of the balance of the amount due to them after deducting the value of the security as estimated by them. A creditor in respect of a debt due on, or secured by, a bill of exchange or promissory note must treat the liability of any person who is liable on the bill antecedently to the company as security held by him (unless that other person is subject to a bankruptcy order in liquidation).

Creditors wishing to vote at the above meeting must lodge a written statement of their claims with us at Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ no later that 12 noon on Friday 20 March 1987. Proxies intended to be used at the meeting must also be lodged with us by that time.

DATED this 6 day of March 1987
M A JORDAN and R M ADDY
ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS

IN THE MATTER OF
FREDERICK PARKER PLC (IN RECEIVERSHIP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named company will be held at The Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London WC2 on Monday 23 March 1987 at 11.30am for the purposes of having laid before it the report prepared by the administrative receivers in accordance with the said section and, if thought fit, appointing a committee.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or vote at the meeting. Creditors who are partly secured may only vote in respect of the balance of the amount due to them after deducting the value of the security, as estimated by them. A creditor in respect of a debt due on, or secured by, a bill of exchange or promissory note must treat the liability of any person who is liable on the bill antecedently to the company as security held by him (unless that other person is subject to a bankruptcy order in liquidation).

Creditors wishing to vote at the above meeting must lodge a written statement of their claims with us at Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ no later that 12 noon on Friday 20 March 1987. Proxies intended to be used at the meeting must also be lodged with us by that time.

DATED this 6 day of March 1987
M A JORDAN and R M ADDY
ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS

IN THE MATTER OF
HIREPLANT LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named company will be held at The Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ on Monday 23 March 1987 at 3.00pm for the purposes of having laid before it the report prepared by the administrative receivers in accordance with the said section and, if thought fit, appointing a committee.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or vote at the meeting. Creditors who are partly secured may only vote in respect of the balance of the amount due to them after deducting the value of the security as estimated by them. A creditor in respect of a debt due on, or secured by, a bill of exchange or promissory note must treat the liability of any person who is liable on the bill antecedently to the company as security held by him (unless that other person is subject to a bankruptcy order in liquidation).

Creditors wishing to vote at the above meeting must lodge a written statement of their claims with us at Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ no later that 12 noon on Friday 20 March 1987. Proxies intended to be used at the meeting must also be lodged with us by that time.

DATED this 6 day of March 1987
M A JORDAN and R M ADDY
ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS

IN THE MATTER OF
HIREPLANT (CONTRACT CRUSHING) LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named company will be held at The Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ on Monday 23 March 1987 at 3.30pm for the purposes of having laid before it the report prepared by the administrative receivers in accordance with the said section and, if thought fit, appointing a committee.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or vote at the meeting. Creditors who are partly secured may only vote in respect of the balance of the amount due to them after deducting the value of the security as estimated by them. A creditor in respect of a debt due on, or secured by, a bill of exchange or promissory note must treat the liability of any person who is liable on the bill antecedently to the company as security held by him (unless that other person is subject to a bankruptcy order in liquidation)

Creditors wishing to vote at the above meeting must lodge a written statement of their claims with us at Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ no later that 12 noon on Friday 20 March 1987. Proxies intended to be used at the meeting must also be lodged with us by that time.

DATED this 6 day of March 1987
M A JORDAN and R M ADDY
ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS

IN THE MATTER OF
FREDERICK PARKER (EXPORTS) LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named company will be held at The Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ on Monday 23 March 1987 at 4.30pm for the purposes of having laid before it the report prepared by the administrative receivers in accordance with the said section and, if thought fit, appointing a committee.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or vote at the meeting. Creditors who are partly secured may only vote in respect of the balance of the amount due to them after deducting the value of the security as estimated by them. A creditor in respect of a debt due on, or secured by, a bill of exchange or promissory note must treat the liability of any person who is liable on the bill antecedently to the company as security held by him (unless that other person is subject to a bankruptcy order in liquidation).

Creditors wishing to vote at the above meeting must lodge a written statement of their claims with us at Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ no later that 12 noon on Friday 20 March 1987. Proxies intended to be used at the meeting must also be lodged with us by that time.

DATED this 6 day of March 1987
M A JORDAN and R M ADDY
ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS

TO THE CREDITORS OF
FREDERICK PARKER (EXPORTS) LIMITED

We, Michael A. Jordan and Robin M. Addy of Cork Gully, Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ, the administrative receivers of the above named company, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that creditors of the company may obtain free of charge, copies of the report we have prepared under section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 by applying to us in writing at the above address (quoting reference SH 518)

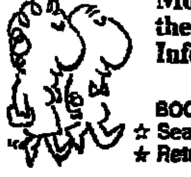
6 March 1987
R.M. ADDY

Continued on page 33

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN



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☆ **THE ARKLEY BARNET SHOW:** Dr Evadne Hinge and Dame Hilda Bracket present their refined medley of ballads and bared teeth. **Comedy Theatre**, Panton Street, London SW1 (01-930 2578). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8-10.15pm, Sat 8.30-10.45pm, *matinee Sat 5.30-7.45pm*, £4-£10.

☆ ***DANTON'S DEATH:*** *The* Rude Mechanicals continue their German *season with Buchner's perceptive* drama of the French Revolution. ***Young Vic Studio Theatre***, 66 The Cut, London SE1 (01-928 6363). *Tube: Waterloo.* Mon-Sat 7.45-10.15pm, matinée Wed 2.15-*4.45pm, £5.*

☆ **FASCINATING AIDA:** The witty, sexy, subversive threesome, sparking and larking about. ***Piccadilly Theatre***, Denman Street, London W1 (01-437 4506). Tube: *Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-*10.10pm, Fri and Sat 6.30-8.40pm, *9.30-11.40pm, £7.50, extended until* March 21.

☆ **KATHIE AND THE HIPPOPOTAMUS:** The uses of fantasy in a travel-writer's diary. Award-winner from Edinburgh by the Peruvian Mario Vargas Llosa. **Almeida Theatre**, Almeida Street, London N1 (01-359 4404). Tube: Highbury and Islington. Mon-Sat 8-10pm, £6, until March 28.

☆ **SCOUT'S HONOUR:** Left-wing council inherits fascist money and *farcical results ensue.* Often hilarious.
Lyric Theatre, King Street, London W6 (01-741 2311). Tube: Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7.45-10pm, matinée Wed 2.30-5pm, Sat 4-6.30pm, £5-£10, until March 28.

☆ **THIS STORY OF YOURS:** Revival of John Hopkins's powerful exposure of a bad cop's *breakdown;* starring David Suchet. **Hampstead Theatre**, Swiss Cottage, London *NW3 (01-722 9301).* Tube: Swiss Cottage. Mon-*Sat 8-10.40pm, matinee Sat 3-*5.40pm, £6-£7, until March 14.
☆ **The Viewing:** Graeme Garden as unearthly visitor bringing surprised bomb-maker to account. *Odd play* by David Pownall, strongly acted. ***Greenwich Theatre, Crooms Hill***, London SE10 (01-858 7755). Mon-*Sat 7.45-9.50pm, matinee Sat 2.30-*4.35pm, £3-£7.50, until March 14.

OUT OF TOWN

BIRMINGHAM: ☆ ***Shakespeare's* Henrys:** After playing ten 10 cities *over four months,* Michael Bogdanov's production reaches its *last theatre before London. With* Michael Pennington as Prince Hal *and Henry V,* and John Woodvine as Falstaff.
Hippodrome Theatre, Hurst Street (021 622 7486). *Henry IV Part One Sat 11.30am-2.30pm; Henry IV Part Two* Sat 4-7pm, *Henry V* today *7.30-10.30pm and Sat 8-11pm,* £4.50-£8.50.

BRADFORD: ★ **Kiss Me Kate:** Paul Jones as Petruchio and Nichola McAuliffe as Kate in the RSC's first American musical. Tickets scarce. **Alhambra Theatre**, Morley Street (0274 752000), Mon-Sat 7.30-10.15pm, matinee Wed 2-4.45pm and Sat 2.30-5.15pm, £4-£12.50, until March 28.

MANCHESTER: ☆ ***The Alchemist:*** Ben Jonson's sharp comedy of *dupes and swindlers in Jacobean* London.
Royal Exchange Theatre, Cross Street (061 833 9833) Mon-Thurs *7.30-10.25pm, Fri and Sat 8-*10.55pm, matinée Wed 2.30-5.20pm, Sat 4-6.50pm, £2.50-£9, until March 28.

MANCHESTER: ★ **My Mother Said I Never Should:** Charlotte Keatley's four generations of women tangling up their children in knots of love and sorrow. Well worth seeing. **Contact Theatre**, Oxford Road (061 273 5696). Thurs and Fri 7.30-9.50pm, £3.75.

POOLE: ☆ ***Peer Gynt:*** *Michael* Maloney plays Ibsen's feckless hero in this Cambridge Theatre Company's touring production. ***Poole Arts Centre***, Kingland Road, Poole (0202 685222), Mon-Sat *7.45-10.15pm, matinée Sat 4-*6.30pm, £4-£5.20, until March 14.

SHEFFIELD: ☆ **Rat in the Skull:** *Revised version of Ron* Hutchinson's play about how an *Irish bomber suspect came* to be injured in a police cell.
Crucible Theatre Studio, 55 Norfolk Street (0742 769922). Mon-Sat 7.45-10pm, £3.50, until March 21.

LONG RUNNERS: ☆ ***The Business of Murder:*** Mayfair Theatre (01-629 3036) . . . ★ **Cats:** New London Theatre (01-405 0072, cc 01-404 4079) . . . ★ **Chess:** Prince Edward Theatre (01-734 8951) . . . ★ **42nd Street:** Drury Lane Theatre Royal (01-836 8108/9/0 or 01-240 9066/7) . . . ☆ **Me and My Girl:** Adelphi Theatre (01-836 7611/7358 and 01-240 7913/4) . . . ★ **Les Misérables:** Palace Theatre (01-434 0909) . . . ☆ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443, cc 01-379 6433) . . . ☆ **No Sex, Please, We're British:** Duchess Theatre (01-836 8243) . . .
★ **Phantom of the Opera:** Sold out until October. Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244, cc 01-379 6131, 01-240 7200) . . . ☆ **Run for your Wife:** Criterion Theatre (01-930 3216, cc 01-379 6565) . . .
★ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria Theatre (01-828 8665, cc 01-630 6262) . . . ☆ **Stepping Out:** Duke of Yorks Theatre (01-836 5122, cc 01-836 9837) . . . ★ **Time:** Dominion Theatre (01-580 8845, cc 01-836 2428).

FILMS

■ *Also on national release*
☎ **Advance booking possible**

CHILDREN OF A LESSER GOD (15): Polished version of the Broadway play, with William Hurt as the teacher of deaf adolescents emotionally involved with a former pupil (Marlee Matlin). Nominated for five Oscars (113 min).
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636, cc 01-373 6990). Progs 2.00, 6.00, 9.00.
☎ **Empire Leicester Square** (01-437 1234, cc 01-240 7200). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 11.15.

THE COLOR OF MONEY (15): Paul *Newman returns to the pool table in* a belated sequel to *The Hustler. Martin Scorsese works hard* whipping up excitement as Fast *Eddie Nelson tries to get back into* the game, spurred by jealousy of a *young protégé played by Tom* Cruise (119 min).
Cannon Chelsea *(01-352 5096).* Progs 2.25, 5.40, 8.35.
☎ ***Leicester Square Theatre*** *(01-*930 5252, cc 01-930 7615). Progs 12.25, *3.10, 6.00,* 8.55, *11.55.*
☎ **Odeon Kensington** (01-602 6644, *cc 01-602 5193). Progs 2.30, 5.00,* 8.10, 11.15.
Odeon Swiss Cottage *(01-722* 5905). Progs 2.40, 5.10, 8.10.

■ **CROCODILE DUNDEE (15):** Australia's smash hit, with TV comic Paul Hogan as a crocodile hunter bemused by New York's urban jungle. Broad and loud, but friendly (98 min).
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 2.30, 5.45, 8.15.
Cannon Royal (01-930 6915). Progs *2.00, 4.10, 6.20, 8.30,* 11.15.
☎ **Odeon Kensington** (01-602 6644, cc 01-602 5193). Progs *3.00, 5.20,* 8.30.
Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-586 3057). Progs 2.40, 6.00
☎ **Plaza Lower Regent Street** (01-437 1234). Progs 1.00, 3.15, 5.45, 8.15, 11.15.

DEADLY FRIEND (18): *Exuberant,* tongue-in-cheek horror romp from the director of A Nightmare on Elm Street. With Kirsty Swanson as the battered daughter given a robot's brain by a teenaged Dr Frankenstein (90 min).
Cannon Bayswater (01-229 4149). Progs 2.30, 5.30, 8.15, 11.15.
Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5901). Progs 2.30, *4.35,* 6.40, 8.45, 11.20.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 2.40, 4.35, 6.35, 8.35, 11.15.
☎ **Warner West End** (01-439 0791, cc 01-439 1534). *Progs 2.25, 4.30,* 6.35, 8.40, 11.15.

DUET FOR ONE (15): Julie Andrews tackles both the violin and emotional traumas in Tom Kempinski's adaptation of his famous play about a musician struck down by multiple sclerosis (107 min).
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636, cc 01-373 6990). Progs 2.00, 6.00, 8.45.
☎ **Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue** (01-836 8861). Progs 2.30, 5.35, 8.20.

■ **THE FLY (18):** Jeff Goldblum – an inspired choice – plays the experimental scientist undergoing a metamorphosis. Remake of the 1958 cult classic, directed by David Cronenberg with his *usual* emphasis on glossy, queasy shocks (96 min).
☎ **Odeon Kensington** (01-602 6644, *cc 01-602 5193). Progs 3.00, 5.05,* 8.30.
☎ ***Odeon Leicester Square*** *(01-930* 6111, 01-930 3232)). Progs 2.15, 5.30, 8.15.
Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 *5905). Progs 8.30.*

■ **THE GOLDEN CHILD (PG):** Eddie Murphy as a social worker recruited to rescue a kidnapped magical child. A bizarre mixture of sentimentality, special effects and Hong Kong hooey (94 min).
Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5901) Progs 2.00, 4.10, 6.20, 8.40, 11.20.
☎ **Empire Leicester Square** (01-437 1234, cc 01-240 7200). Progs 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00, 11.15.

GOTHIC (18): *Ken Russell's film* starts with the stormy gathering at Byron's *Villa Diodati which inspired* Mary Godwin's *Frankenstein.* With Gabriel Byrne, Natasha Richardson and Julian Sands though scenes are regularly stolen by lightning, leeches, phallic armour and female automatons *(87 min).*
☎ **Lumiere** (01-836 0691, cc 01-379 *3014). Progs* 1.15, *3.10, 5.05,* 7.05, 9.10, 11.15.

THE GREEN RAY (PG): Connoisseurs of Eric Rohmer's work will recognize both actress Marie Rivière and the predicament of her character as she labours *mightily over affairs of the heart.* Winner of last year's Venice Film Festival prize (98 min).
☎ **Chelsea Cinema** (01-351 3742). Progs 2.15, 4.20, 6.30, 8.45.
☎ **Renoir** (01-837 8402). Progs 2.15, 4.20, 6.30, 8.45.

THE MOSQUITO COAST (PG): Harrison Ford and Helen Mirren in an atmospheric adventure, based on Paul Theroux's novel about a family taking refuge in Central America's rivers and jungle. Directed by Peter Weir (119 min).
☎ **Odeon Haymarket** (01-839 7697). Progs 2.00, 5.45, 8.30.

■ **NAME OF THE ROSE (18):** Simplified edition of Umberto Eco's medieval murder mystery, filmed with a fine sense of atmosphere and a grotesque carnival of characters. Directed by Jean-Jacques Annaud; with Sean Connery (131 min).
Cannon Bayswater *(01-229 4149).* Progs 2.00, 5.00, 8.00, 11.15.
Cannon Chelsea *(01-352 5096).* Progs 2.00, 5.10, 8.10.
Cannon Edgware Road *(01-723* 5901). Progs 2.25, 5.10, 8.10, *11.20.*
Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). *Progs 12.15,* 2.40, 5.25, 8.15, 11.15.
☎ ***Odeon Kensington*** *(01-602 6644,* cc 01-602 5193). Progs 2.15, 4.55, 8.00.
Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 *5905). Progs 2.30, 5.10, 8.00.*

■ **PEGGY SUE GOT MARRIED (15):** Francis Ford Coppola's warm sophisticated time-warp comedy, in which Kathleen Turner's troubled mum finds herself back at high school (103 min).
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148). Progs 1.40, *3.55,* 6.10, 8.25, 11.15.

■ **A ROOM WITH A VIEW (PG):** *Merchant-Ivory's version of an* early Forster novel offers the *expected virtues and vices:* elegance, civility, bloodlessness. *With Helena Bonham Carter as the* English girl whose visit to Italy *opens new doors (117 min).*
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 *2636, cc 01-373 6990).* Progs 2.00, 6.00, 8.45.
☎ ***Curzon West End*** **(01-439 4805).** Progs 1.30, 3.45, 6.10, 8.40.

SHE'S GOTTA HAVE IT (18): *Cheeky, rough and ready American* independent film about the sexual *adventures of a black girl in* Brooklyn. Written and directed by Spike Lee *(84 min).*
☎ **Gate Cinema** (01-727 4043). *Progs 3.00, 4.30, 6.05, 7.40, 9.25,* 11.15.
Metro *(01-437 0757).* Progs 3.00, 5.00, 7.10, 9.20.
☎ ***Screen on the Green*** *(01-226* 3520). Progs 3.40, 5.25, 7.20, 9.15, *11.15.*

■ ***SOUL MAN*** **(PG):** Fast, *furious* and occasionally tasteless social *comedy, with C. Thomas Howell as* the white man who blacks up to win *a law school scholarship. Directed* by Steve Miner (103 min).
Cannon Bayswater *(01-229 4149).* Progs 2.30, 5.15, 8.15, 11.15.
Cannon Edgware Road *(01-723* 5901). Progs 2.00, 4.15, 6.25, 8.40, *11.20.*
Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). *Progs 1.35, 3.50, 6.05, 8.30, 11.15.*
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 *0310). Progs 2.20, 4.25, 6.30, 8.40,* 11.15.

STAND BY *ME* (15): The adventures of four small-town adolescent boys in the *summer of* 1959. Directed by Rob Reiner (88 min).
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 2.10, *4.40, 6.50, 9.00.*
Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). Progs 1.10, *3.05,* 5.00, *7.00, 9.00,* 11.15.
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148). Progs 2.35, 4.35, *6.35, 8.35, 11.15.*

■ ***TRICK OR TREAT*** **(18):** A dead rock star of limited talent comes back to life to avenge his critics - an endearing premise raucously developed. With Marc Price and Tony Fields; directed by the actor Charles Martin Smith (97 min).
Cannon Prince Charles (01-437 8181). Progs 1.50, 4.40, 7.35, 11.00.

WIVES TEN YEARS AFTER (15): Three wives assess their lives and husbands during a Christmas binge in Oslo. Sequel to the 1975 Norwegian comedy hit Wives, with the same cast and director (Anja Breien) (88 min).
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148). Progs 2.35, 4.35, 6.35, 8.35, 11.15.

A cast of five actors and an actress play 13 participants in the Falklands campaign – servicemen, nurses, men on rescue work – in *Above All, Courage,* the Southern Lights Company's second in-house production at Hampstead's New End Theatre. The show is drawn by Max Arthur from his book of interviews with people involved in the campaign. Published by Sphere two years ago, the book sells well in the Argentine, indicating a tone some distance from flag-waving jingoism. *The cast's front-line reports build into a vivid* mosaic of Britons at war. Max Arthur is himself an actor and played in *Blood Brothers* earlier this year in Southern Ireland. Across the border *he* has been granted permission by the Ministry of Defence to interview serving soldiers for another book, *Northern Ireland: Soldiers Talking,* which might also be staged. The last performance of the New End run will be April 5, the fifth anniversary of the day the Task Force sailed. New End Theatre, 27 New End, Hampstead, NW3 (01-794 0022). Opens *tonight,* 8pm. ***Jeremy Kingston***

DANCE

☆ **SWAN LAKE:** Lesley Collier and Stephen Jefferies tonight lead the cast in Anthony Dowell's new production for the Royal Ballet. Mark Ermler conducts.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066), 7.30-10.30pm, £1 (restricted view) - £22.50.

☆ ***THE CHOLMONDERLEYS:*** *Four* women in comic dances.
The Place, Duke's Road, London WC1 (01-387 0031), 8-10pm, £4.

☆ **SWAN LAKE:** André Prokovsky's production for Northern Ballet Theatre brings out the drama.
Grand Theatre, Singleton Street, Swansea (0792 475715), 7.30-9.30pm, £4-£8.

☆ **RED STEPS:** London Contemporary Dance Theatre perform Siobhan Davies's *latest* creation and works by Christopher Bannerman and *Robert Cohan.*
Mayfair Theatre, Commercial Road, Southampton *(0703 229771),* 7.30-9.30pm, £4.50-£7.

CONCERTS

☆ **FROM DRESDEN:** The Dresden Staatskapelle performs Beethoven's Symphony No 9, with the London Symphony Chorus and soloists under *Sir* Colin Davis.
Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800), 7.30-8.45pm, £3-£15.

☆ **HANDLEY/SNO:** Besides *Bernard d'Ascoli in* Ravel's *jazzy* G major piano concerto, the Scottish *National Orchestra under Vernon* Handley offers Rachmaninov's *Symphony No.1 and the beautiful November Woods* of Bax.
Usher Hall, Lothian Road, Edinburgh (031 228 1155), 7.30-*9.30pm, £2-£8.80.*

☆ ***ALCHEMICAL HANDEL:*** *The* English Concert plays a suite from Handel's *The Alchemist, his* Cantata *Crudel tiranna Amor,* Boyce's Symphony *No* 7, *Arne's* Harpsichord Concerto in G minor. *Trevor Pinnoc conducts and* performs at the harpsichord.
St John's, Smith's Square, London SE1 (01-222 1061), 7.30-9.30pm, £3-£8.

☆ **EMOTIONS NO. 1:** Linda Montesa plays Buenaventura's *Emotions No 1,* Beethoven's piano sonata Op 111, Guaccio's *Paul-Uli,* Schumann's *Fantasie Sticks,* Op 12, Granados's Sonata. An unusual programme.
Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800), 7.30-9.30pm, £2.50-£4.50.

☆ **PAUL BERKOWITZ:** Another pianist, Paul Berkowitz, performs Mozart's Fantasy K397, Rondo K485, *Schubert's* Sonata D894, Chopin's Polonaise-Fantasy, Op 61, *and* Bartok's Sonata.
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, *London W1 (01-935 2141),* 7.30-9.30pm, £2.50-£5.50.

☆ **CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA:** *Manoug* Parikian conducts the City of London Sinfonia in *The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba* by Handel, and John Wallace stars in Haydn's *Trumpet* Concerto.
Barbican Centre, Silk Street, *London EC2* (01-628 8795, cc 01-638 8891), 7.45-9.45pm, £5-£10.50.

☆ **McINTOSH'S MOZART:** Thomas McIntosh conducts the London City Chamber Orchestra and solos in Mozart's piano concertos K453, 456 and 459.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800), 7.45-9.40pm, £3-£6.

OPERA

★ **TOSCA:** Phyllis Cannan has now taken over in the title role of Jonathan Miller's controversial production, set in Nazi-occupied Rome. Rodge Macann is the new Scarpia and Albert Rosen conducts.
English National Opera, Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161), 8-10.45pm, £2-£18.50.

Peter Harvey as Aeneas in Kent Opera's baroque double-bill of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* and Rameau's *Pygmalion.* Both have been rethought musically and dramatically since last year's production at Brighton. Dance and acrobatics mark the statue's return to life in *Pygmalion;* in *Dido,* too, Norman Platt plans to emphasize the dance element in his restaging. Andrew Parrott conducts both works. For details see listings.

☆ **COUNT OF LUXEMBOURG:** Nigel Douglas brings a whiff of *echt* Vienna to his restaging of Tom Hawkes's original production of Lehar's operetta.
New Sadler's Wells Opera, *Sadler's* Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 *8916), 7.30-10.15pm,* £3.50-£16.50.

☆ **DIDO/PYGMALION:** Kent Opera's attractive double-*bill* of Purcell's and Rameau's classic baroque works. Elrian James is the Dido; Julian Pike the Pygmalion.
The Orchard, Home Gardens, *Dartford* (0322 343333), 7.30-10pm, £6-£11.50.

★ **MARRIAGE OF FIGARO:** John Cox's affectionate production for Scottish Opera, revived with a lively young cast.
His Majestys Theatre, Rosemount *Viaduct,* Aberdeen *(0224 641122),* 7.15-10.30pm, £4.50-£13.50.

★ **LA BOHÈME:** Charles Mackerras conduct Welsh National's gripping production with Anne Williams-King as Mimi and Dennis O'Neill as Rodolfo.
New Theatre, Park Place, Cardiff (0222 394844), 7.15-9.30pm, £5-£14.

JAZZ

☆ **JAZZ WARRIORS:** Courtney Pine, the flavour of a recent month, is by no means this orchestra's only outstanding soloist: the young vibraharpist Orphy *Robinson* shows great promise.
Shaw Theatre, *100* Euston Road, London NW1 (01-387 8075), 8.15pm, £6.

☆ **LOOSE TUBES:** London's other young 21-piece jazz band, this one features such starlets as Django Bates and Iain Ballamy.
Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Frith Street, London W1 (01-439 0747), 9.30pm, £8 (members £2).

ROCK

☆ **THE CULT:** Grungy, hard rock *with little sense of humour.* Thrill to the sound of Ian Astbury's "Love *Removal Machine*" at full throttle.
Birmingham Odeon, New Street *(021 643 6101),* 6.30pm, £5.50-£6.

☆ **COMSAT ANGELS:** The original 1979 quartet from Sheffield with a new batch of stark, doomy material from their *Chasing Shadows* album.
Brunel University, Kingston Lane, Uxbridge (0895 33735), 8pm, £3-£3.50.

★ **SIMPLY RED:** Their graduation *to the top of the new establishment* ranks has been spectacularly swift, despite their *rather ersatz sound.*
Manchester Apollo, Ardwick (061 273 3775) 7.30pm, *£6-£7.*

☆ **WORLD PARTY:** The band fronted by ex-Waterboy Karl Wallinger on tour to promote their promising debut *Private Revolution* and the enjoyable "Ship of Fools". Melodically adept rock.
Manchester University SU, Oxford Road (061 273 5111), 8pm, £3-3.50.

GALLERIES

LE CORBUSIER: Draughts, drawings, paintings and memorabilia relating to the life and work of this controversial architect.
TONY CRAGG: 16 *new sculptures constructed from discarded man-made materials by a leading British sculptor.*
Both at **Hayward Gallery**, South Bank Centre, London SE1 (01-261 0127), Mon-Wed 10am-8pm, Thurs-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 12-6pm, £3, until June 7.

PAULA REGO: Controlled, narrative paintings from an artist usually associated with bursts of bright colour and eclectic symbolism.
Edward Totah Gallery, 13 Old Burlington Street, London W1 (01-734 0343), Mon 2-6pm, Tues-Fri, 11am-6pm, Sat 10.30am-1pm, free, until April 4.

VICTOR NEWSOME: Rare exhibition for a painter of the female form who works *slowly in* tempera.
Marlborough Fine Art, 6 *Albemarle* Street, London W1 (01-629 5161), *Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-*12.30pm, free, until March 28.

MERVYN PEAKE: Over 600 items relating to the life and work of the novelist and illustrator, including many rare paintings.
Royal Festival Hall, South Bank Centre, London SE1 (01-921 0600), Daily 10am-11pm, free, until April 12.

THE KATE GREENAWAY VOGUE 1860-1980: Over 2,000 items relating to the popular Victorian illustrator.
The Schuster Gallery, 14 Maddox Street, London W1 (01-491 2208), Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm, free.

WALKS

EAST END MURDERS – JACK THE RIPPER: meet Tower Hill tube, 11am, £2.25.

UNDERWORLD LONDON – FAGIN'S FRIENDS: meet Museum *of London, 2.30pm, £2.75.*

FRIDAY THE 13TH PRISON & PUB WALK SPECIAL: meet *St Paul's* tube, 7.15pm, £2.75.

JACK THE RIPPER'S VICTORIAN LONDON: *meet* Aldgate East tube (Art Gallery exit), 11am, £2.

TALKS

THE RAILWAYS COME TO *LONDON:* *Denis* Smith talks about inner-city and Inter-City.
Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2 (01-600 3699), 1.10pm, free.

THE UNMANNED EXPLORATION OF SPACE: Dr Ellis D. Miner, *Deputy Voyager* Project Scientist, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, USA, *gives the* William Herschel Society seventh annual lecture.
Pump Room, Bath (info 0225 66541), 7.30pm, £2.50.

OTHER EVENTS

PROVINCIAL BOOK FAIR: Sixty-five exhibitors selling antiquarian books, modern first editions and other books covering a wide range of interests.
Victoria Rooms, Queens Road, Bristol. Today 10.30am-8pm, tomorrow 10am-5pm. Admission 30p.

RHS GARDEN *DEMONSTRATIONS:* Last day on which to meet the experts and learn *how best to prune your roses.*
Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Wisley, *near* Woking, Surrey (0483 224234). 10.30am-*noon.* Adult £2, child £1.

LOWESTOFT PORCELAIN: Opportunity to *meet and listen* to M.G. Godden, a collector of the coveted *porcelain which dates from* 1757 *to* 1799. He has been a collector for more *than* 40 years and has written two standard books on the *factory.*
Pallant House Gallery, 9 North *Pallant, Chichester (0243 774557).* 7.30 pm. Admission £3 includes a glass of wine.

CHIPPERFIELDS CIRCUS: One of the oldest circuses in the country which still provides traditional family entertainment.
Milton Keynes Bowl, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire (0908 691443), 4.45pm and 7.30pm. Ringside seats £5, child £4; tiers, adult £3 and £4, child £2 and £3.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD: Ernie Wise, Lulu and Julia Hills star in Broadway solve-it-yourself musical by Rupert Holmes, loosely based on Dickens. Opens May 7 in West End.
Savoy Theatre, Strand London WC2 (01-836 8888, cc 01-741 9999).

A CHORUS LINE: First British tour. April venues: Hanley Theatre Royal *(0782 2663012), Southsea King's* Theatre (0705 82828), Oxford *Apollo Theatre (0865 244544) and* Sunderland Empire Theatre (0783 *42517).*

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL FESTIVAL: Purcell's Overture to the Fairy Queen, Schubert's Mass in G, and Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Trumpets are among highlights of London Festival Orchestra's "Summer Music in Cathedrals" tour. July 1. Bookings: Visitor Centre, Liverpool Cathedral (051 709 6271).

LAST CHANCE

SERGIO DE CASTRO: CELEBRATIONS AND **VARIATIONS:** Paintings by Argentinian-*born artist, inspired by* Old Masters (Holbein, Dürer, Van Gogh, *Vermeer and El Greco). Ends* today.
Galerie Matisse, Institut Français, 17 Queensberry Place, London *SW7 (01-589 6211)*

KODAK COMPETITION: Prize-winning photographs and portfolios from Kodak Amateur Photographer Competition, until Sunday.
Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3002).

Theatre: Jeremy Kingston; Films: Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Rock: David Sinclair; Jazz: Richard Williams; Dance: John Percival; Galleries: David Lee; Other Events: Judy Froshaug; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

TOP FILMS AND VIDEOS

LONDON:
1 (-) *The Color of Money*
2 (1) The Fly
3 (3) *Children of a Lesser* God
4 (2) Crocodile Dundee
5 (-) The Name of the Rose
6 (-) She's Gotta Have It
7 (4) The Mosquito Coast
8 (6) Gothic
9 (5) A Room with a View
10 (7) The Golden Child
Supplied by Screen International

OUTSIDE LONDON:
1 The Fly
2 Crocodile Dundee
3 The Golden Child
4 Soul Man
5 Peggy Sue Got Married
Supplied by: Screen International

UNITED STATES:
1 (-) Lethal Weapon
2 (1) A N'mare on Elm St III
3 (2) Platoon
4 (-) Angel Heart
5 (3) Outrageous Fortune
6 (6) Some Kind of Wonderful
7 (4) Mannequin
8 (5) Hoosiers
9 (7) Black Widow
10 (9) Crocodile Dundee
Supplied by: Exhibitor Relations Co Inc/*Screen International*

VIDEO RENTALS:
1 (1) Commando
2 (2) Cobra
3 (6) The Hitcher
4 (3) Highlander
5 (4) Iron Eagle
Supplied by: *Video Business*

ENTERTAINMENTS

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL 628 8795/638 8891 Ton't 7.45 **CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA** Manoug Parikian cond John Wallace trumpet **HANDEL:** Arrival of the Queen of Sheba **BACH:** Air on the G String **HAYDN:** Trumpet Concerto in E flat **VIVALDI:** The Four Seasons.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL 01 222 4163 Tn't. Audience rehearsal 6.15pm. Perf 7.30pm **SING THE CHORUSES** of Handel's **MESSIAH** with Soloists Lynne Dawson, Lynton Black, Simon Gay, Howard Milner. Cond Christopher Stokes. Watkins Shaw Ed copies on hire £5 from Box Office & at door.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 CC 240 5258 **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Ton't 8.00 Tosca (PLEASE NOTE LATER STARTING TIME. Perf now ends 10.45) Tomor 7.30 The Mikado

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 240 1066/1911 Stdby info 836 6903 S CC Tickets £1-£22.50 (Ballet) £2-£40 (Opera) 65 amphi seats avail on the day. Ton't 7.30 **THE ROYAL BALLET** Swan Lake (New Production) Ballet casting info. 01 240 9815. Tomor 7.30 **THE ROYAL OPERA** Ariadne auf Naxos. "Edita Gruberova...the peerless Zerbinetta of the decade" F.T. Anna Tomowa-Sintow is Ariadne, every inch a tragic heroine" Guardian

SADLER'S WELLS 278 8916. First Call CC 24hr 7 day 240 7200

NEW SADLER'S WELLS OPERA

THEATRES

ME AND MY GIRL

NUNSENSE

ALBERY 836 3878 CC 379 6565/ Open All Hours 379 6433 (no bkg fee) **REDUCED PRICE PREVS FROM WED.** Opens Mar 24 "A GLITTERING DIAMOND OF A SHOW" Ind. "AN AMAZING, EXUBERANT MUSICAL" Times Review

MARCH OF THE FALSETTOS

by William Finn. Also bookable through First Call 240 7200 (bkg fee) 24hr 7 day.

ALDWYCH 01 836 6404/0641 cc 01 379 6233 01 741 9999 DOROTHY TUTIN SUSAN ENGEL HARRY TOWB STEVEN MACKINTOSH ROBERT GLENISTER in NEIL SIMON'S

BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS

Directed by MICHAEL RUDMAN A National Theatre Production "Humour at its best, a rich and loving production" Daily Mail "A beautifully shaped family comedy" Times "It will run for a long time" Time Out Eves Mon - Fri 7.30 Mats Weds 3.0 Sats 5.00 & 8.30 First Call 24 hr 7 day cc 01 240 7200 (no bkg fee) Open All Hours 379 6433 (no bkg fee) Grp Sales 01 930 6123 OVER 100 PERFORMANCES

AMBASSADORS 01-836 6111/2 cc 836 1171 First Call (24 hrs/7 days) 240 7200 (bkg fee). Eves 7.30, Wed mat 3, Sat 4 & 8 Royal Shakespeare Company's

LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES

Winner 4 "BEST PLAY" awards Lindsay Duncan "BEST ACTRESS" Olivier Awards '86

APOLLO Shaftesbury Ave 01 437 2663 434 3598 cc First Call 24-hr 7 day 240 7200. Keith Prowse 741 9999

A PIECE OF MY MIND

SIEGFRIED SASSOON

COMEDY OF THE YEAR

STEPPING OUT

THIRD HILARIOUS YEAR

APOLLO VICTORIA SS 828 8665 CC 630 6262 Party Bkgs 828 6188 First Call CC (24hr) 240 7200 CC OPEN ALL HOURS 379 6433 Grp Sales 930 6123. Tkts from WH Smith Travel Branches. Evgs 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0 "A MUSICAL THAT SURPASSES ANYTHING AROUND IN EVERY DIMENSION" D Exp

STARLIGHT EXPRESS

Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE Directed by TREVOR NUNN APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE FOR RETURNS Special concessions at £5 on Tues mats for OAP's NOW BOOKING TO SEPTEMBER

BARBICAN 01 628 8795/638 8891 cc (Mon-Sun 10am-8pm) **ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY BARBICAN THEATRE** Book now for new season starting 26 March **MACBETH, ROMEO AND JULIET** and **RICHARD II. THE PIT** Book now for new season starting 25 March **COUNTRY DANCING** by Nigel Williams. **WORLDS APART** by Jose Triana and **SARCOPHAGUS** by Vladimir Gubaryev.

COMEDY 930 2578 cc 240 7200/379 6433/741 9999 Grps 930 6123

SPIN OF THE WHEEL

A CRACKER OF A SHOW! Mon-Thur 8 Fri & Sat 5.00 & 8.30 Prevs from 2 Apr Opens 7 Apr 7pm

COMEDY THEATRE 930 2578 cc 240 7200 Grps 930 6123

HINGE AND BRACKET

"A wonderfully funny duo" S Tel Limited season - Ends 28 Mar Mon-Fri 8, Sat 5.30 & 8.30

COTTESLOE 'S' 928 2252 CC (National Theatre's small auditorium) Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 **THREE MEN ON A HORSE** by George Abbot and John Cecil Holm. Previews Thur 7.30 & March 20 to 25 at 7.30. Opens March 26 at 7.00 Then March 27 & 28 **YERMA**.

RUN FOR YOUR WIFE!

JUDI DENCH MICHAEL WILLIAMS

MR and MRS NOBODY

EDWIN DROOD

THE MOUSETRAP

DONMAR WAREHOUSE 240 8230 CC Open All Hours 379 6565/6433 DEE DEE BRIDGEWATER "A performer of enormous zest and magnetism" Times as Billie Holiday in LADY DAY Written and directed by Stephen Stahl Latecomers cannot be admitted until the interval. Mon-Thur 8.00, Fri 8.30 Sat 6.00 & 8.30

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & CC 01-836 8108, 01-240 9066/7. First Call 24hr 7 day cc bkgs on 01 240 7200 (no bkg fee) Open All Hours 01 379 6433 (no bkg fee) David Merrick's

42ND STREET

A SHOW FOR ALL THE FAMILY Winner of all the best Musical Awards for 1984 voted

BEST MUSICAL

STANDARD DRAMA AWARDS voted

BEST MUSICAL

LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARD voted

BEST MUSICAL

PLAYS & PLAYERS LONDON THEATRE CRITICS AWARD

Evgs 8.0 Mats Wed 3.0, Sat 5.0 & 8.30 Reduced price mat Weds Students and OAP's standby Group Sales 930 6123 BOOKING NOW UNTIL 1988

DUCHESS S 836 8243 CC 240 9648 CC 379 6433 & CC 24 hr/7 day 240 7200 Evgs 8 Wed mat 3 Sat 5 & 8 NO SEX, PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH

GARRICK 379 6107 cc OPEN ALL HOURS 379 6433 741 9999

WHEN DID YOU LAST SEE YOUR...TROUSERS?

By Ray Galton & John Antrobus Based on a story by Galton & Simpson Prevs from Apr 1. Opens Apr 14. Eves 8. Mats Tues 3. Sat 5

FINAL 3 WEEKS

MAUREEN LIPMAN in WONDERFUL TOWN

ACTRESS OF THE YEAR

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

THE HENRYS

KISS ME KATE

THE AMEN CORNER

RICHARD TODD in THE BUSINESS OF MURDER

NATIONAL THEATRE COMPANY

CHESS

'ALLO 'ALLO

CATS

BREAKING THE CODE

WOMAN IN MIND

LES MISERABLES

FASCINATING AIDA

CABARET

WAYNE SLEEP TOYAH WILLCOX

DECADENCE

ARTURO UI

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ART GALLERIES

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EVENTS

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هكذا من الاصل

FRIDAY MARCH 13 1987

THE TIMES

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1578.0 (+6.6)

FT-SE 100
1989.7 (+10.3)

Bargains
46032 (49829)

USM (Datastream)
156.86 (+0.16)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5875 (–0.0040)

W German mark
2.9512 (–0.0257)

Trade-weighted
72.3 (–0.4)

GUS gets sockmaker for £8m

Pantherella, the Leicester manufacturer of up-market men's socks, was yesterday the subject of an agreed £8 million bid from the sprawling Great Universal Stores retail conglomerate. The shares, suspended on Tuesday on the news of a bid approach, came back to the Stock Market at 198p against a suspension price of 170p.

The offer is for a shares and cash package worth about 205p for every Pantherella share and has the blessing of the company's board who have agreed to accept it in respect of their holding of just under 40 per cent. Pantherella came to the Unlisted Securities Market in March, 1985, at 80p a share. Great Universal intends to slot the company into its Burberrys top-of-the-range fashion division.

Sweeter start

Rowntree Mackintosh is experiencing a better start to its new financial year than it has enjoyed for some time. This presages well for Kit Kat's fiftieth anniversary celebrations. Pretax profits, published yesterday, for the year to January 1987 rose from £79.3 million to £84 million.

Tempus page 27

In tomorrow's 12-page *Family Money* we ask whether FIMBRA will provide enough protection for investors. Also, with interest rates on the way down, is a fixed-rate mortgage right for you? We preview the cost of a spring wedding, check out events in the timesharing world and look at what is new in home income plans.

Stockley up

Stockley, the property and development group, yesterday reported profits before tax last year up from £3.7 million to £7.8 million. There was an extraordinary profit of £10.8 million from the sale of its shares in Stock Conversion.

Courts pullout

Courts Furnishers, the furniture retailer, is closing its Australian operations after 17 years because of continuing losses. Group turnover last year from its 160 stores in 10 countries was more than £90 million but the Australian company again reported a loss.

No referral

The acquisition of Silvester Litton and D Mark & Sons by *Strong and Fisher* is *not* to be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Shildon sale

Woodhouse & Rixson has conditionally agreed to buy the whole of the issued share capital of Shildon Forge for £1.08 million.

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MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	
Dow Jones	2269.98 (+1.00)*
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	21470.20 (+157.24)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	2750.14 (–10.76)
Amsterdam: Gen	273.7 (+2.0)
Sydney: AO	1625.7 (–8.40)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	1727.0 (+4.80)
Brussels:	
General	4468.54 (+11.38)
Paris: CAC	440.3 (+0.1)
Zurich: SKA Gen	536.30 (–4.20)
London: FT. A	n/a
FT. Gilts	89.89 (+0.23)
Recent Issues	**Page 28**
Closing prices	**Page 29**

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 10½%
3-month Interbank 9¹⁵⁄₁₆-9⅞%
3-month eligible bills:9¹⁷⁄₃₂-9⁷⁄₁₆%
buying rate
US: Prime Rate 7½%
Federal Funds 6¹⁄₁₆%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.66-5.65%*
30-year bonds 99⅝-99¹³⁄₁₆*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.5875	£: $1.5880*
£: DM2.9512	$: DM1.8605*
£: SwFr2.4741	$: SwFr1.5585*
£: FFr9 8258	$: FFr6.1910*
£: Yen243.76	$: Yen153.54*
£: Index:72.3	$: Index:104.2
ECU £0.703353	SDR £0.788892

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Johnstone Group	425p (+17p)
Manganese Bronze	158p (+15p)
Capital Radio	152p (+19p)
Trinity Intnl.	675p (+25p)
BPCC	345p (+14p)
Wm Collins 'A'	445p (+20p)
Euro Home Prods.	186p (+14p)
Next	312p (+14p)
Tyne Tees TV	446p (+16p)
Dawson Intnl.	271p (+15p)
IC Gas	723p (+15p)
Ultramar	202p (+12p)
Reuters	709p (+23p)
Polly Peck	228p (+13p)
Glynwed	397p (+11p)
Yellowhammer	184p (+21p)
FALLS:	
Costain Group	615p (–15p)
Appleyard	245p (–11p)
Body Shop	705p (–38p)
J Wilkes	140p (–17p)

Prices are as at 4pm

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $408.00 pm-$409.90
close $409.75-410.25 (£258.00-258.50)
New York:
Comex $408.20-408.70*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Apr.) pm $17.75bbl ($17.95)
** Denotes latest trading price*

City marks shares down 4p

Telecom rings in with £1.5bn

By Colin Campbell

British Telecom, which came to the stock market in December 1984 when the Government offered part of its holding on a fully-paid basis of 130p a share, yesterday reported a nine months' turnover of £7 billion and an 11.7 per cent increase in pretax profits to £1.51 billion.

Results for the September-December period showed an 11.9 per cent increase in pretax profits to £506 million on the same quarter the previous year and a 13.5 per cent advance in turnover to £2.39 billion.

Although the results matched market expectations, and Sir George Jefferson, the BT chairman, forecast satisfactory results for the full year, the shares closed 4p down on the day at 242p.

The financial impact of the recent overtime ban by BT clerical workers and engineers has yet to be measured but there could be a positive effect of at least £50 million owing to cost savings on salaries. No adverse impact on the fourth quarter figures as a result of the strike is expected, the board added yesterday.

Mr Graeme Odgers, BT's deputy chairman, said: "Our tails are up," adding that the profitable year-on-year growth at British Telecom should continue.

Manning levels, trimmed by about 5,000 annually over the past four or five years to bring those employed in the core business to a total 220,000, were further reduced by 3,900 in the nine months under review.

BT would not be drawn on whether the rate of de-manning would accelerate — something stock markets analysts suggest has to happen if BT is to meet the challenge of increased competition. This, and the fact that the results only matched their expectations, marked the shares lower.

But they expect full-year profits to top the £2 billion level, with a faster rate of earnings growth likely in 1988 and beyond.

Greater activity in the City and developments associated with Big Bang led to increased business. Telephone call volume increased by 7 per cent for inland calls and by 11 per cent for international calls.

But BT gave a warning that competition was greater, and that by design, some market share could be lost. However, the industry was growing, and group capital expenditure — £1.53 billion in the nine months under review, of which £363 million was spent on digital exchanges — would remain high.

At least £500 million of BT's capital expenditure was put the way of British companies.

The Government retains a 49.8 per cent interest in British Telecom and is unlikely to offer any more of its holding until May 1988 at the earliest. Foreign investment interest in BT is about 10 per cent, with shareholders in America, Japan and Europe.

Group spending on research and development, running at £180 million or 2 per cent of turnover, is expected to grow, and the balance sheet remains strong. Gearing is about 35 per cent, according to Mr Odgers.

BT's rental income increased 12.5 per cent to £2.29 billion for the nine months, reflecting the strong growth in demand for business exchange lines and private circuits.

Telephone call income at £3.67 billion grew by 10.2 per cent compared with the first nine months of last year.

Tempus, page 27

Ward £5.2m 'not disclosed'

By Lawrence Lever

The agreement to pay £5.2 million to the Guinness director, Mr Thomas Ward, which was revealed in the Jersey courts on Wednesday was not disclosed in any of the formal documents issued by the company in connection with its takeover bid for Distillers.

The failure to disclose the agreement raises doubts about the legality of the documents and exposes the then Guinness directors to potential personal legal claims.

Evidence filed in the Jersey court action bought by Guinness to trace the whereabouts of the £5.2 million, alleged that it had been a justifiable reward for Mr Ward's role as negotiator during the takeover bid.

Court documents alleged that Mr Ward discussed the question of his remuneration with the then Guinness chairman, Mr Ernest Saunders, during the week commencing February 20, 1986.

This was to be for Mr Ward's "business consulting services as distinct from the legal services provided by his law firm". The payment of a sum of £5.2 million was agreed.

Senior legal and merchant banking sources said yesterday that this agreement ought to have been disclosed in the formal offer documents issued by Guinness after the Monopolies and Mergers Commission cleared a revised Guinness bid for Distillers.

Moreover, as a transaction in which a Guinness director was interested, it ought to have been formally disclosed to the Guinness board and minuted.

It is understood that Guinness's legal advisers Freshfields were at no stage informed of the £5.2 million deal.

The Guinness offer document dated March 3, 1986, states clearly that "the directors of Guinness are the persons responsible for the information contained in this document" and "have taken all reasonable care" to ensure its accuracy. "Each of the directors of Guinness accepts responsibility accordingly."

However, on the question of Mr Ward's remuneration, the document merely states that Mr Ward is "a partner of Ward, Lazarus, Grow and Cihlar which will receive a fee in respect of legal services in connection with this offer".

The "directors and other interests in Guinness" section of the listing particulars states:"No director of Guinness has or has had any interest in any transactions which are or were unusual in their nature".

● *Mr Anthony Salz, a partner in Freshfields, is due to give evidence to the Department of Trade inspectors this morning.*

From fashion to furnishings: George Davies, chief executive of Next

Next profits leap to £30m

By Alexandra Jackson

Next, the fashion and mail order group, reported pretax profits of £30.1 million yesterday for the five months to the end of January, 1987. This compared with a pro-forma figure of £12.4 million for the same period in the previous year. A five-month dividend of 1.5p was declared.

Highlights of the period included the launch of Next Too, a new range of women's clothing, and an especially good performance from Next for Men.

Grattan, the recently acquired mail order chain, has been integrated successfully with cost savings of several million pounds. Plans are being laid for the launch of the Next Mail catalogue at the end of this year, which is expected to provide a new perspective on mail order retailing.

Next, whose chief executive is Mr George Davies, is changing its year-end from August to January after the acquisition last year of Grattan. Later this year it intends to announce a second set of interim results for the six months to the end of July, 1987, and then report full-year figures in early 1988 for the twelve months to the end of January, 1988.

Tempus, page 27

Sterling 'soon to join EMS'

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

The pound slipped yesterday, after clear signals from the Bank of England that its rise has gone far enough, and amid City rumours that the Government is about to take sterling into the European Monetary System.

There are suggestions that the Chancellor could announce that he is exploring the possibility of full EMS membership for the pound during his Budget speech

Dr Gerard Lyons, UK economist at the brokers Savory Milln, said that there was now a "window of opportunity" to take the pound into the EMS after the agreement between finance ministers of the leading six industrial nations in Paris last month.

The prospect of EMS membership would allow a cut in base rates by two points to 8.5 per cent and allow the Chancellor to use the lion's share of the £5 billion at his disposal to cut tax, Dr Lyons said.

Treasury officials expressed some surprise at the suggestion. Comments at the end of last year by the Prime Minister and Downing Street officials appeared to rule out EMS membership until after the general election.

It would be possible, however, for the Chancellor to announce his intentions for the pound during his Budget speech. EMS membership does not require prior Parliamentary approval.

Sterling has strengthened since the Paris meeting and, in the DM2.90-3.00 range is at a sustainable long-term level.

The pound fell back yesterday towards a level which foreign exchange dealers regard as the Government's desired upper limit, although the Bank of England has firmly resisted suggestions that there are targets.

The sterling index fell by 0.4 points to 72.3.

The pound fell by 40 points to $1.5875 against a generally weak dollar and by nearly 2.5 pfennigs to DM2.9540.

ALC loses £8.5m on ordered share sale

From Richard Battley
Sydney

Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank, the London firm of stockbrokers, yesterday made an Aus$20 million (£8.52 million) loss in a court-ordered sale of 13.9 million Humes shares they acquired during a fiercely fought battle.

The shares, about 8 per cent of Humes, a concrete and steel manufacturer, were bought by Industrial Fruits, an investment company, controlled by Mr Ron Brierley, a New Zealander.

It tendered Aus$2.70 a share cum dividend of 3 cents. Another bid in the four-day auction was at Aus$2.50, while an Aus$2.90 offer was for 200,000 shares only. Humes closed yesterday at Aus$2.83.

ALC paid $57 million for the shares that it bought as the price was moving up to Aus$4.26.

ALC yesterday paid Aus$748,500 to the Victorian Treasury and Aus$120,000 for the court costs of the Australian corporate watchdog, the National Companies and Securities Commission, which in January declared the purchase by ALC as unacceptable conduct. The Victoria Supreme Court had ordered these payments when it ruled that the ALC parcel be optioned.

Mr Henry Busch,the NCSC Chairman, said the outcome was "a very substantial deterrent" to unacceptable share acquisitions.

He was confident the success of the commission's present inquiry into events surrounding the now-withdrawn offer for Humes by investment group Unity APA Limited would secure more government funding for the NCSC.

"First on the list is going to be more money to spend on investigations and hearings of this sort." He said the NCSC was investigating "market manipulation share ramping and creative accounting".

Merrill Lynch dealer dismissed

By Richard Thomson and Bailey Morris

Merrill Lynch yesterday dismissed Mr Nahum Vaskevitch, the head of its merger and acquisitions department in London, who has been been accused of insider trading in the United States, for failing to give the company a satisfactory explanation of his dealing activites.

Mr Stanislas Yassukovitch, chairman of Merrill Lynch Europe, *said that although he* had been given ample opportunity to explain himself Mr Vaskevitch had not even attempted to do so.

He added that Mr Vaskevitch had not been suspended from his duties earlier at the request of the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) which wished to keep its investigation secret from him. Merrill has been co-operating with the SEC inquiry into Mr Vaskevitch for several months.

The US Government is seeking the cooperation of British authorities in pressing insider trading charges against Mr Vaskevitch, who has dropped from sight.

Officials said yesterday the SEC is cooperating with Federal prosecutors in New York who are working on a separate criminal investigation and that additional charges may soon be filed.

The SEC contacted the British Department of Trade and Industry only after it had announced charges against Mr Vaskevitch on Wednesday. The London Stock Exchange said that it had so far had no contact with the SEC about Mr Vaskevitch.

The SEC's civil complaint against Mr Vaskevitch, who holds dual British-Israeli citizenship and Mr David Sofer, one of Israel's most successful financial speculators, was another blow to the international financial community which has been *rocked by scandals in New* York and London.

The SEC complaint accused Mr Vaskevitch of masterminding a vast insider trading sceheme which produced more than $4 million in illegal profits over two years as a result of trades executed by *Mr Sofer who used a network* of brokerage firms and individuals. The Israeli businessman acted on confidential information supplied by Mr Vaskevitch in mergers involving at least 12 companies, the SEC said.

Collins boosts profits

By Ray Heath

William Collins, the publisher, yesterday more than matched stockbrokers' profit forecasts by unveiling full-year profits up 18.6 per cent to £15.534 million, on sales up 19 per cent at £144.4 million.

Sales would have been £5.2 million higher, and profits up a further £1 million, but for the effects of sterling.

Australia, the company's biggest overseas market and one where Mr Ian Chapman, the chairman, has finally put his operations into order, was the biggest foreign exchange casualty. Even after a 15 per cent reduction on translation, however, sales improved an estimated 40 per cent.

The British publishing operations showed a sales increase of 5.9 per cent to £67.8 million. Hatchards, the British retailing arm, and Claude Gill (included from last January) more than doubled sales to £108 million.

Earnings per share were up 22.6 per cent to 32p a share, while the dividend was raised 19.4 per cent from 7.75p a share to 9.25p.

The company is forecasting good progress in the United States, after the successful publication of "A Day in the Life of America," a photographic record of 24 hours of American life.

The shares, 41 per cent owned by News International, gained 15p to 440p.

Eurotunnel advertises in France

From Diana Geddes, Paris

A year after the launch of the Eurotunnel project to link France and Britain by a tunnel under the English Channel, the first publicity campaign costing 15 million francs (£1.52 million) is to be launched in France.

Its aim is to promote the project among a still largely apathetic French public and to prepare for the £750 million share flotation planned for this summer.

A similar publicity campaign is being prepared in Britain, but its aim is more to convince those still hostile to the scheme of its enormous potential benefits.

Recent polls have shown that the British public is split 40 per cent for and against the tunnel, with 20 per cent undecided. However, in France, 74 per cent are reported to be broadly in favour, with few really hostile. But the project has excited much less interest and passion in France

Asked in Paris yesterday about the likely effect of the Zeebrugge channel ferry disaster on public opinion, M André Bénard, the French co-president of Eurotunnel said the consortium had been appalled by the tragedy, and made clear that it had no intention of exploiting the disaster.

EMAP buys 22 papers

By Cliff Feltham

East Midland Allied Press, the newspaper and magazine group, is paying £16.6 million for 22 local newspapers from the Ladbroke Group.

Ladbroke acquired a 75 per cent stake in the Senews chain of weekly free and paid-for newspapers in February 1986 but has decided they no longer fit in with its overall business.

The newspapers, with a combined circulation of more than 500,000, are published in the South-east and south coast from Dover to Bournemouth. Senews is also the owner of Southern Web Offset, a contract newspaper printer which also prints the *Racing Post*.

Senews made a profit before tax of £1 million last year on turnover of £16 million. A near 25 per cent stake is *owned by Mr Robert Breare*, the group's founder, who is remaining as a non executive director. The deal needs Department of Trade and Industry clearance.

CBI survey reports high street optimism

Spring relief for sales

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Britain's high streets are set for a spring and summer bonanza as long as next week's Budget includes a reduction in personal tax and measures leading to another cut in interest rates.

The latest survey of the distributive trades by the Confederation of British Industry shows that after poorer-than-expected February sales, due to bad January weather, business in March has picked up and will continue to improve.

"An air of optimism has returned to Britain's high streets," the CBI said yesterday.

Shops selling clothes, furniture, carpets and household textiles are expected to lead the post-Budget, pre-election boom.

Mr Nigel Whittaker, chairman of the CBI's distributive trades survey panel, said: "Sales did not recover in February as much as retailers had expected and they are now looking for better business in March.

"A favourable Budget next week would help sales further during the summer."

The survey, covering 325 retailers, shows that 59 per cent thought March sales would be higher than a year ago, and only 6 per cent said sales would be lower.

The increasingly buoyant state of retailing is leading to an explosion in the number of part-time staff being recruited by shops. Clothing shops, retailers of durable goods, and book sellers and stationers reported the best increase in employment in February and were the most optimistic about job prospects.

One of the most encouraging aspects for the Government in the latest CBI survey is the apparent reduction in the level of imported consumer goods, a reflection of exchange rates as well as the growing competitiveness of domestic products.

A balance of only 8 per cent of companies (the difference between those reporting increases against decreases) told the CBI that import penetration was higher than a year ago — the most positive response since last summer.

Grocers and off-licences reported the strongest growth in imports, while specialist food shops, footwear, leather and clothes shops reported lower import penetration than in February last year.

Rural aid

The Government has allocated £27.8 million, an increase of 12 per cent, for small businesses in rural areas to expand the tourist sector and help companies to market their goods and create jobs.

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NatWest

BUSINESS
RESERVE
ACCOUNT

NatWest announces the following changes in Business Reserve Account interest rates, effective from 12th March, 1987:

Customers not affected by CRT		Customers affected by CRT	
Gross Interest per annum	Balance	Net Interest per annum	Gross equivalent per annum to a basic rate taxpayer
9.50%	£25,000 – £250,000	7.00%	9.86%
9.25%	£5,000 – £24,999	6.75%	9.51%

National Westminster Bank PLC
41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP

COMPANY NEWS

● **APPLEYARD GROUP:** Final dividend 5.25p making 7p for the year to December 31 (comparisons restated). Figures in £000. Turnover 176,316 (161,809), record pretax profit of 2,624 (1,859), tax 146 (59), eps 28.2p (21.6p).

● **EUROPEAN HOME PRODUCTS:** Year to December 31 (comparisons restated). First final dividend 2.5p, payable on May 11. Figures in £000. Turnover 125,930 (32,899), pretax profit 4,795 (949), tax 1,202 (485), eps 14.2p (2.8p).

● **KEPPEL CORPORATION:** Year to December 31. First final dividend 2.5 per cent. Figures in $000. Turnover 576,285 or £362,104 (616,064), operating profit 35,749 (loss 1,243). Investment and interest income 6,794 (5,661). Pretax profit 7,270 (loss 49,917), profit after tax 16,007 (loss 44,119), eps 3.7 cents (loss 20.5 cents).

● **CVD INC:** The shareholders have approved the acquisition of the company by Morton Thiokol. Each company share will be converted into the right to receive, in the US, $2.50. British shareholders will be entitled to receive £1.575 per share.

● **TR CITY OF LONDON TRUST:** The company has entered into an agreement with De Zoete Bevan for the issue, by way of a placing of £10 million debenture stock 2020.

● **THERMAL SCIENTIFIC:** The company has purchased the business and associated assets of Ringway Apel of Camberley, Surrey, for an initial cash payment of £265,165 with additional cash payments up to a maximum of £120,000 related to performance during 1987.

● **SHARPE AND FISHER:** Final dividend 2.25p making 3p (2.33p) for 1986. Figures in £000. Turnover 60,865 (50,430), pretax profit 3,342 (2,157), tax 1,205 (766), eps 10.8p (7p).

● **LOGICA:** The company's US subsidiary has formed a new subsidiary headquartered in Massachusetts. Logica Technology Systems Inc has been formed from the former systems engineering division of Logica Systems Inc and from offices and project groups in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and other cities. The move is designed to enhance the company's position in a number of key markets, particularly in work for the federal government.

● **NZI CORPORATION:** Brierley Investments has purchased by private treaty 74,919,518 ordinary and 2,095 warrants in NZI. The total consideration is NZ$ 207,735,799 (£74.9 million).

● **TSB CHANNEL ISLANDS:** The annual meeting was told that the company looks forward to the current year with confidence but, after the exceptionally strong performance last year, profits are not expected to grow at the same rate this time.

● **WYNDHAM GROUP:** The group has agreed to acquire some freehold properties known as Units 10-106 Springvale Industrial Estate, Cwmbran, Gwent and Units 19-36 at Llantarnum Industrial Park, also Cwmbran. The seller of these properties is the Cwmbran Development Corporation and the price is £365,000 in cash. These units produce an annual rental income of £46,000.

● **ROBERTSON RESEARCH:** The company is to sell that part of the business of Robertson Research Engineering Services concerned with the design, manufacture and distribution of geo-technical instrumentation, logging systems and software products. It is being sold to a newly-formed company owned by Dr AJ Wright and Dr DN Merton-Lyn for £320,000.

● **KENMARE OIL EXPLORATION:** Talks have been concluded for the purchase of Irish Marine Oil. Terms: two Kenmare shares for every three IMO. The acquisition is subject to the approval of Kenmare shareholders. IMO is exploring for gold on 11 licences in the Republic of Ireland.

● **FEB INTERNATIONAL:** Acceptances for the recommended offers by Tarmac have been received for more than 95 per cent of the ordinary shares and more than 94 per cent of the "A" ordinaries. The offers remain open until further notice.

● **NEW DARIEN OIL TRUST:** Dividend 0.7p (0.625p) for the year ended January 31. Pretax profit on ordinary activities £137,794 (£138,601). Earnings per share 1.04p (0.92p).

● **J HEWITT & SON (FENTON):** Total dividend for 1986 5p (2.7p). Turnover £10.76 million (£7.71 million). Pretax profit £1.32 million (£642,267). Earnings per share 25.5p (11.4p).

● **COSTAIN GROUP:** Costain Australia boosted its net profit, after tax, by 80 per cent to Aus$14.9 million (£6.4 million) for 1986 and is making a one-for-one scrip issue.

● **TRAFFORD PARK ESTATES:** Half-year to December 31. Interim dividend 4.25p (4p). Gross income (turnover) £3.16 million (£3.08 million). Pretax profit £1.38 million (£1.31 million). Earnings per share 8.95p (7.72p).

● **CONTROL TECHNIQUES:** Mr Trevor Wheatley, the chairman, told the annual meeting that the acquisition of Burton Industries, completed since the balance sheet date of September 30, had doubled the size of the group and given it an important presence in the large US electronic drive market.

Maersk buys big oil drilling rig

By David Young Energy Correspondent

Britain's largest offshore oil support company has added one of the world's biggest semi-submersible drilling rigs to its fleet despite the present depressed state of the market.

Although a substantial number of drilling rigs are laid up in the Cromarty Firth in Scotland and at Great Yarmouth, Maersk has just completed the purchase of the Arctic Sunrise, formerly the Glomar Arctic 2, from its Panamanian owners.

The rig will transfer to the British flag on completion of the purchase and is at present in the Cromarty Firth. It was built in Finland three years ago at a cost of $113 million (£71.5 million).

Maersk are not divulging the purchase price but its managing director, Mr Niels Iversen, said: "It reflects the current state of the off-shore market to which we have a strong commitment."

"Since we entered it we have built up one of the largest and most modern offshore fleets. We have no doubt that our policy of continuing investement in modern vessels, equipment and facilities – even when the market is poor – will ensure that we retain our competitive edge. Our investement in the Arctic Sunrise is a good indication of our resolve."

Maersk rescently took delivery of the Maersk Mariner, which is the largest and most sophisticated offshore support vessel yet built. Despite a generally depressed market the vessel has been fully employed in the North Sea.

WALL STREET

Early setback for Dow

New York (Reuter) – Wall Street shares moved lower in moderate, early trading.

Investors were concerned about a possible correction and were taking profits before any downturn. However, they were encouraged by the better than expected retail sales figures.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 3.16 to 2,265.82 when the transport indicator was 4.96 lower at 934.84 and the utilities average up 0.18 to 216.61.

The broader New York Stock Exchange composite index edged up 0.05 to 165.44.

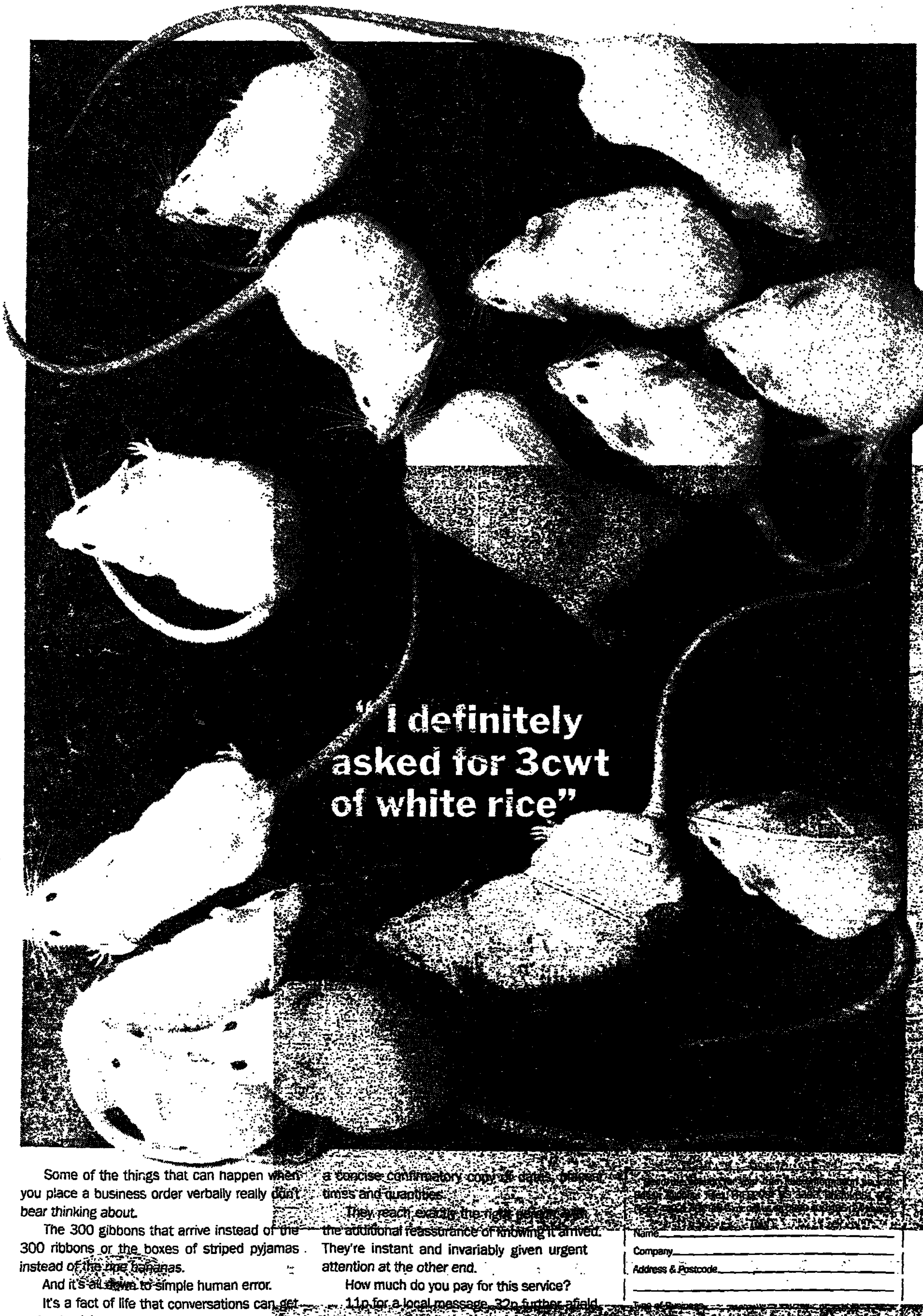
	Mar 11	Mar 10
AMR Cp	57%	58%
ASA	48	47%
Aetna Life	67	66%
Allied Signal	47%	48%
Allis Chalm	2%	2%
Alcoa	43%	43
Amax Inc	18%	17%
AMR Hess	29%	28%
Am Brands	48%	49%
Am Can	95%	96%
Am Cynmd	94	94%
Am Ele Pwr	29%	29%
Amex	78%	78%
Am Home	89%	89%
Am Motors	4%	4%
Am Stand	47%	47%
Am Telph	24	23%
Amoco Cp	74%	74%
Armco Steel	7%	7%
Asarco Inc	19%	20%
Ashland Oil	65%	65%
Atl Richfld	70%	70%
Avon Prod	30%	30%
Bk Boston	33%	34%
Bank NY	42%	40%
Bankamer	12%	12%
Bkrs Tst NY	48%	48
Beth Steel	7%	7%
Boeing	53	51%
Boise Casc	79%	81%
Borden	57%	57%
Borg Warnr	41%	41%
Brist Myer	99%	100
BP	51%	51%
Brunswick	43%	43%
Burl Ind	46%	48%
Burl Nth	66%	67%
CBS	158%	161
CPC Int	49	48
CSX Cp	33%	33%
Cmpbell Sp	64%	64%
Can Pacific	17%	17%
Caterpillar	47	47%
Centrl SW	34%	34%
Champion	39%	39%
Chase Man	38%	38%
Chem NY	45%	46
Chevron	51%	51%
Chrysler	54%	54%
Citicorp	52%	53%
Clark Eq	25	24%
Coca Cola	48%	45%
Colgate	46%	46%
Columb Gas	51%	51%
Cmb'tn Eng	36%	38
Cmwlth Edi	36%	37
Cons Edis	44%	45%
Cn Nat Gas	38	37%
Cons Pwr	17%	17%
Cont Data	27	27
Corning Gl	83%	85%
Crane	42%	43
Curtiss Wrt	60%	60%
Data Genl	35	35%
Deere Co	28%	28%
Delta Air	61%	63%
Detroit Edi	17%	17%
Digital Eq	169%	170
Disney	60%	60%
Dow Chem	81%	81
Dresser Ind	26%	26%
Dupont	109	108
Duke Pwr	48%	46%
East Kodak	75%	75%
Eaton Cp	89	88
Emerson El	104%	105
Emery Air	13%	13%
Exxon	82%	82%
Fed Dpt Sts	93%	95%

	Mar 11	Mar 10
Firestone	36	36%
Fst Chicago	31%	32
Fst Int Bncp	58%	58
Fst Penn C	10%	10%
FT Wachva	46%	46
Ford Motor	82%	82
GAF Cp	43%	44
GTE Cp	41%	41
Gen Cp	85	84
Gn Dynam	76%	77
Gen Elect	107	107%
Gen Inst	27%	26%
Gen Mills	53%	52
Gen Motors	78%	79
Gen Pub Ut	25%	26%
Genesco	4%	4%
Georgia Pac	51	52
Gillette	59%	59%
Goodrich	57	58
Goodyear	54	54%
Gould Inc	18%	18%
Grace Co	61%	59
Grt Atl Pac	30%	30%
Greyhnd	35%	35%
Gruman	30	29%
Gulf & West	81%	80%
Heinz	46%	47%
Hercules	58%	58%
Hewlett Pk	54%	55%
Honeywell	70%	68%
IC Ind	30	30%
ITT Cp	64	64%
INCO	14%	15%
Ingersoll	79%	79%
Inland Steel	23%	24
IBM	141%	142%
Int Paper	98%	99%
Irving Bk	48%	48%
Jhsn & Jhsn	91%	90%
K Mart Cp	60	60%
Kaiser Alum	16%	16%
Kerr McGee	31%	30%
Kimbl Clark	111%	112%
Kroger	34%	35
LTV Cp	2%	2%
Litton	83%	84%
Lockheed	50%	51
Lucky Str	30%	30%
Man H'nver	44%	45%
Manville	2%	2%
Mapco	62%	62%
Marine Mid	51%	51
Mt Marietta	45%	45%
Masco	37%	38
Mcdonalds	77%	77%
McDonnell	78%	78%
Mead Cp	71%	70%
Merck	158%	160%
Minsta Mng	124%	125%
Mobil	43%	43%
Monsanto	78%	77%
Morgan Jp	45%	46%
Motorola	50%	50%
NCR	65%	65%
NL Indstrs	5%	6
Nat Distill	60%	60%
Nat Med Ent	27%	27%
Nat Semi	14%	15%
Norfolk Sth	95%	96%
NW Bancrp	46%	41%
Occid Pet	30%	31%
Ogden Cp	58%	[illegible]
Olin Cp	48%	47%
Owens Ill	60%	60%
PPG Ind	87%	87%
Pac Gas El	24%	25
Pan Am	4%	4%
Penney JC	95%	95%
Pennzoil	79%	80

	Mar 11	Mar 10
Pepsico	35%	35%
Pfizer	75	73%
Phelps Dod	30%	30%
Philip Mor	85	85%
Philip Ptrl	14%	13%
Polaroid	72%	74%
Proct Gble	91%	91%
Pub Svc Eg	41%	41%
Raytheon	76	76%
Rynlds Met	55%	55%
Rockwell Int	53%	52%
Royal Dutch	109%	108%
SFE Sopac	35%	36%
Sara Lee	42%	43%
Schlumb	38	38%
Scott Pap	79%	80%
Seagram	72%	70%
Sears Roeb	52%	52
Shell Trans	73%	73%
Singer	47	47%
Smthkln Bk	111%	111%
Sony Cp	21%	21%
Sth Cal Edi	33%	33%
SW Bell	116%	115%
Std Oil	59%	59%
Sterl Drug	54%	53%
Stevens JP	40%	40%
Sun Comp	57%	59%
TRW Inc	97	99%
Teledyne	339%	347%
Tenneco	46%	46%
Texaco	34%	34%
Tex Eastn	35%	34%
Tex Inst	167%	165%
Tex Util	34%	34%
Textron	64%	64%
Travelers	51	51
UAL Inc	58%	59%
USG	40%	41%
USX Cp	24%	24%
Unilever NV	258	258%
Un Carbide	27%	27%
Un Pac Cp	73%	74%
Unisys Cp	102	102%
Utd Brands	47%	47
Utd Tech	53%	52
Unocal	32%	32%
Walter Jim	57%	56%
Warn Lamb	75%	74%
Wells Far	51%	53%
Westg El	65	66
Weyerhsr	55%	55%
Whirlpool	38	37%
Woolworth	46%	47%
Xerox Cp	73%	73%
Zenith	25	25%

CANADIAN PRICES

Agnco Eag	32	32
Alcan Alum	48%	49%
Algoma Stl	11	10%
Can Pacific	16%	23%
Cominco	16%	16%
Con Bathrst	20%	20
Hawk S Can	27%	27%
Hud Bay Mi	27%	27%
Imasco	37%	37%
Imperial Oil	60%	60
Int Pipe	45%	46
Royl Trstco	34%	34%
Seagram	96	94%
Steelco 'A'	22%	22%
Thmsn N 'A'	28%	32%
Varity Cp	3.45	3.50
WCT	15%	15%
Weston	38	38



Some of the things that can happen when you place a business order verbally really don't bear thinking about.

The 300 gibbons that arrive instead of the 300 ribbons or the boxes of striped pyjamas instead of the ripe bananas.

And it's all down to simple human error.

It's a fact of life that conversations can get garbled, misinterpreted, or forgotten.

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Every time you send a message it can be checked before it goes out, leaving you with a concise confirmatory copy of dates, prices, times and quantities.

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How much do you pay for this service?

11p for a local message, 32p further afield. (It's a lot less than you thought, isn't it?)

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Company____
Address & Postcode____
Type of Business____
Do you have a telex?

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The cost quoted excludes VAT. 11p is the cost of sending a local 3 minute direct-dialled call from your own Telex. For example, content approximately equivalent to an A4 typed letter of 200 words.

Hong Kong & Shanghai
Lloyds Bank

13th March, 1987
its base rate is changed
from 11% to 10.50%

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Councils fight for high streets

By Anne Warden

A campaign against out-of-town shopping is launched today by local authorities and chambers of trade in England and Wales.

They say too many big developments could spell the end for high streets all over the country, and add that about 60 are planned with areas of more than 250,000 sq ft.

The campaign, supported by half a dozen southern English local authorities and others in Wales, Greater Manchester, and Tyne and Wear, is led by Southampton City Council.

It will make its point tomorrow by filling its city centre shopping area with cows, sheep, poultry and other animals to demonstrate, it says "the illogical nature of out-of-town shopping schemes".

The campaigners are hoping for support further north from groups in the Glasgow area, Strathclyde region, and Edinburgh.

They say that areas where multinational out-of-town developers threaten established trade are Manchester, Birmingham, Exeter, Leicester, the North-east of England, Humberside and Yorkshire.

A spokesman for the campaign said: "We are into the second phase where they are doubling and trebling the existing floor space."

One group echoing those fears yesterday, though not directly involved in the campaign, was Exeter Chamber of Trade.

Mr Martin Walsh, its chief executive, said: "If you look at the American experience they are having to pump money into high streets to keep them open. That is the position we will get to if we are not very careful."

Shops battle, page 27

Rise in TV profits

Tyne Tees Television, the independent programme contractor for the North-east of England, announced pretax profits of £4,208,000 compared with £3,188,000 over the previous 15-month accounting period. A final dividend of 15p makes a total of 18.75p compared with 13.125p last time.

STOCK MARKET

Prices show optimism

By Michael Clark

Shares regained some of there composure in late trading yesterday still looking for a 1 percentage point cut in interest rates to 9½ per cent when the Chancellor makes his Budget speech next week.

Investors have been careful not to open any new positions ahead of the Budget in case it should contain the odd shock. As a result prices have been left to their own devices, drifting on lack of interest.

So the *appearance of a few* cheap buyers after hours caught market-makers on the hop and enabled share prices to recapture some of this week's lost ground.

The FT 30 share index recovered an early fall and by 4pm was 2.7 up at 1,574.1, having traded in narrow limits most of the day. The improvement was reflected more clearly in the broader FT-SE 100 index 10.3 higher at 1,989.7 by the close.

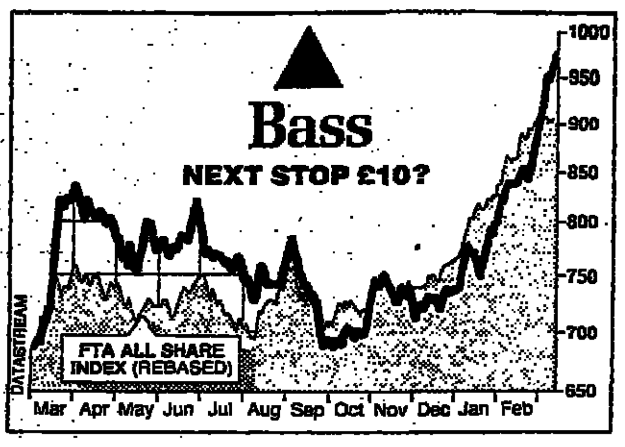
Government securities ran into profit-taking after this week's encouraging performance on the back of a strong pound. Prices at the longer end of the market shaded £¼ in thin trading. It came as no surprise to dealers who witnessed the sale of the remaining £1 billion of "tap" stock earlier this week.

There was selective support for some of the international stocks which have suffered from the pound's strength and fears that it may hit exports.

Shares of Bass, one of the "big five" brewers, have been in sparkling form recently. Yesterday they frothed up another 9p to a new high of 958p and have now risen more than 200p in the past six weeks.

The brewery sector has been enjoying a strong run-up to the Budget in the hope that duty will only be raised in line with inflation and that tax cuts will provide more spending power for customers. But some analysts feel the rally has now been overdone and that it could be time to take profits. But there were few indications yesterday that investors were acting on the advice.

Kleinwort Grieveson, the broker, has just published its monthly review of the brewery sector and still rates Bass a "buy." Mr Victor MacColl, drinks analyst with Kleinwort, says: "It's a market leader, but there is a relatively low turnover in the shares. I have suggested that the group could do with a scrip issue."



Bass has always been a core holding for fund managers in the sector. Interim figures are expected in May and for the full year to September, the market is looking for pretax profits to rise from £310.4 million to £355.4 million. For 1988 the group is capable of £410 million where the prospective p/e falls to 12.

● Hanson Trust slipped 0.5 to 171.5p yesterday ahead of a fund managers' meeting in New York to be addressed by Sir Gordon White, chairman of the US subsidiary. London institutions were taking more than a passing interest hoping to pick up leads about Hanson's next main buy.

"Bass has led the way among the brewers and the rating reflects that. It has got the look of £10 written all over it," adds Mr MacColl.

The rest of the brewers displayed modest gains. Allied Lyons firmed 1p to 399p, Grand Metropolitan, of Truman and Watney Mann fame, 2p to 491p and Whitbread 'A' 2p to 338p. But Vaux Group, the North-east brewer, and an old takeover favourite, closed below its best levels of the day with a rise of 1p to 591p, after 595p.

HP Bulmer, the Hereford cider-maker, and the subject of intense speculation in recent weeks, recovered an early fall on reports that the company had "definitely" received a takeover approach. Mr Richard Hollis, a director of Bulmer, described the report as totally without foundation. Bulmer shares have certainly been a strong market in recent weeks and have risen from the 143p level since the start of the year.

Over on the Unlisted Securities Market, shares of Misys, which provides and installs computer systems for insurance intermediaries, made a healthy start in first-time dealings. Placed at 95p *the price ended the day at* 135p – a premium of 40p.

Ecobric Holdings, the demolition and scrap metal merchant, has confirmed that it has reached agreement with Marler Estates, the property developer, about refinancing proposals. Ecobric says the refinancing will mean its three main divisions are on a sound footing. The deal will probably result in Marler taking a substantial stake in the company without launching a full bid.

● Hughes Foods, the USM-quoted food group, rose 10p to 98p yesterday amid whispers it may be buying again. Word is Clipper, a privately-owned fish processing group, will reverse into it in exchange for a 12 per cent stake. Hughes shareholders meet in London on Monday.

Shares of Ecobric were suspended back in November at 20p and proposals for a £1.5 million rights issue had to be scrapped. Marler, which owns Queens park Rangers Football Club and the grounds of Chelsea and Fulham, finished 3p firmer at 993p.

Shares of Tottenham Hotspur Football Club are finally back to the level they were first floated at four years ago. The price jumped 12p to a new peak of 101p after learning that Mr Anthony Berry, chairman of Blue Arrow, Britain's biggest recruitment agency, had been appointed to the board as a non-executive director. He has also bought 400,000 new shares in the company at 110p for cash. Spurs was originally floated at 100p, but has never reached a premium and recently traded as low as 50p.

There was continuing bid speculation among the few remaining quoted discount houses following reports earlier this week that someone had picked up a near 5 per cent stake in **Union Discount**, up 5p at 873p. The buyer has still to reveal his identity. **Cater Allen Holdings** also went better with a 2p rise to 410p, after 415p.

● FRANKFURT: Share prices closed mixed yesterday following Wednesday's sudden drop on the news of Volkswagen's 480 million mark provision in the 1986 accounts against foreign exchange losses. *Volkswagen* shares closed 2.20 marks higher and the Commerzbank index edged up 4.8 points to 1,727.0.

● TOKYO: Prices soared to a third consecutive record close on very heavy volume with the Nikkei Dow Jones index at 21,470.20 against (21,312.96). Traders said heavy buying in car manufacturing and other export-led shares fueled the advance. Aids-related stocks failed to sustain an early rally, instigating profit taking in pharmaceuticals and chemicals.

● SYDNEY: Share prices fell for the fourth consecutive day, with the All-ordinaries index closing at 1625.7 against 1634.2. Traders said the decline was due mainly to profit-taking after strong gains over past weeks as well as some concern about high Australian interest rates and a flood of new share issues that will soon come to market.

● HONGKONG: Shares ended mixed after volatile trading in reduced volume. The Hang Seng index closed at 2750.14, marginally down on Wednesday's 2760.90. Selective overseas selling undermined modest buying interest from local investors.

● SINGAPORE: Prices fell for the second day running in lower volume, though they closed off the bottom after a late burst of buying. The Straits Times industrial index was 1066.04 compared with Wednesday's 1070.90.

ALPHA STOCKS

Company	Volume '000	Company	Volume '000	Company	Volume '000
Allied-Lyons	1,100	Gen Accident	288	Redland	549
Amstrad	7,500	GEC	12,000	Reckitt Colman	55
ASDA-MFI	1,800	Glaxo	1,400	Reed Int	177
Ass Br Foods	825	Globe IT	210	Reuters	2,800
BET	524	Granada	1,200	RMC Group	108
BTR	4,200	Grand Met	2,300	RTZ	709
BAT	2,200	GUS 'A'	153	Rowntree	2,200
Barclays	1,900	GRE	250	Royal B of Scot	1,500
Bass	804	GKN	5,100	Royal Ins	380
Beecham	1,800	Guinness	10,000	Saatchi	1,300
Blue Circle	368	Hammerson Pry 'A'	87	Sainsbury (J)	533
BOC	280	Hanson	4,200	Scot Newell	1,200
Boots	14,000	Hawker Siddeley	472	Sears	9,100
BPB Ind	282	Hillsdown	1,500	Sedgwick Gp	318
BPCC	1,800	Imp Chem Ind	1,100	Shell	5,600
Br Aerospace	1,400	Imp Cont Gas	7,500	Smith & Nephew	1,600
Br Airways	—	Jaguar	1,600	STC	596
Br Gas	19,000	Ladbroke	487	Stan Chart	703
Br Petroleum	4,600	Land Securities	3,700	Storehouse	1,090
Br Telecom	8,800	Legal & Gen	862	Sun Alliance	114
Britoil	4,900	Lloyds	833	Tarmac	1,800
Bunzl	3,600	Lonrho	1,200	TSB P/P	5,900
Burton	1,400	Marks & Spencer	5,100	Tesco	1,000
Cable & Wireless	3,600	MEPC	470	Thorn EMI	1,800
Cadbury Schwep	729	Midland	450	Trafalgar House	339
Coats Viyella	708	Nat West	415	Trusthouse Forte	4,100
Com Union	3,500	P & O Dfrd	302	Unigate	781
Cons Goldfields	459	Pearson	1,000	Unilever	205
Cookson Gp	509	Pilkington Bros	516	Utd Biscuits	2,100
Courtaulds	1,300	Plessey	6,000	Wellcome	4,200
Dee Corp	5,900	Prudential	398	Willis Faber	120
Dixons Gp	8,400	Racal Elect	5,700	Whitbread 'A'	1,000
English China	253	Rank Org	859	Woolworth	234
Fisons	492	Rank Hovis	80	See prices page 29	

Offer raised

Cyacq Corp, an investor group bidding for Cyclops Corp, said that it would raise its outstanding tender offer price to $92.50 a share (£58.5) from $80 if certain conditions were met and topping the $90.25 a share offered by Dixons Group.

BUSINESS SUMMARY

Brookmount to build £7m retail complex

A plan to build a 14-acre £7 million retail complex on the southern edge of Belfast besides Ulster's M1 motorway was announced yesterday by Brookmount Properties, the Belfast company, which is in partnership with Trafalgar House and Blue Circle Industries in the £39 million redevelopment of Brooklands Aerodrome at Weybridge in Surrey.

Construction will begin this summer with the first units ready for occupation in autumn 1988. Brookmount has completed three of Northern Ireland's largest shopping centres and, since its flotation in January last year, has become one of the stars of the USM with its shares soaring from 160p on flotation to their current 530p.

A yen for farming

A Japanese property group, *Higashi Nippon*, yesterday launched a campaign to sell United States farmland in Japan and has set up a company in Chicago to oversee the operation. International Farm Corporation of America, will offer limited initial acreage in Illinois, California, Florida and Indiana from early April to gauge response. Americans will continue to work the land as tenant farmers.

Glynwed soars

Glynwed International, the *West Midlands* industrial group, powered a near 30 per cent increase in pretax profits last year of £46.1 million. Half of the increase came from acquisitions and the rest from growth within the existing business. Turnover was 3.2 per cent ahead at £478 million with earnings per share up 24 per cent to 27.47p. The shares responded with an 11p rise to 397p.

Airline for N Ireland

For the first time in more than 20 years Northern Ireland is to have its own airline – flying Belfast-built Short 360 commuter aircraft. The formation of Ulstair under the Business Expansion Scheme was announced yesterday by Captain Michael Woodgate, the chairman and managing director of Woodgate Air Services, an air taxi and flight training company and Mr Harry Spring, a former Dan-Air executive.

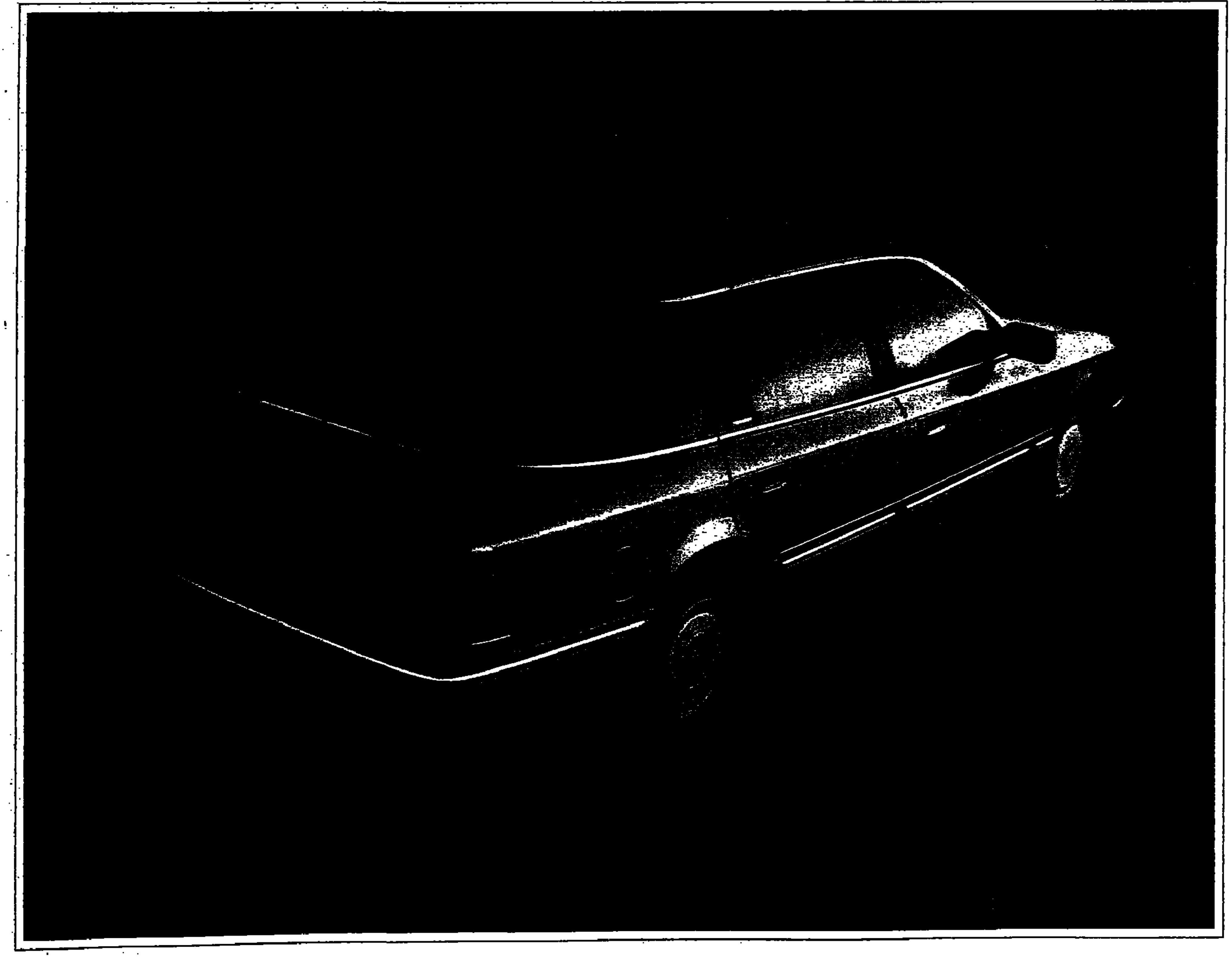
Partners profit

John Lewis Partnership, the staff-controlled department stores and supermarkets group, has increased pretax profits 28 per cent to £105 million, and can distribute a record £42 million in annual bonuses to its 29,000 workforce. Sales from the 21 stores and 83 Waitrose supermarkets were up 15 per cent to more than £1.5 billion, Mr Peter Lewis, (left) the chairman, said yesterday.

Boost for Ulster jobs

The jobs of 150 Ulster garment workers, recently made redundant with the closure of Carrington Viyella's Van Heusen factory at Ballywalter in Co Down, will be restored by a new enterprise announced yesterday by the Northern Ireland Industrial Development Board.

Copeland Clothes, founded jointly by the Belfast- quoted company Albion and Mr Ian Herbert, will produce men's suits, jackets and trousers for Britain's high street chains. Customer stores will supply cloth to be made up under their own brand labels..



Thanks to its new engine, it'll spend less time overtaking.

On your left, the Scorpio Granada, a car which has never been slow to take advantage of an opportunity.

Now, however, it's even quicker on the uptake. Thanks to its refined new 2.9 litre engine.

Perhaps the best feature of this fuel injected V6 is its all round flexibility. This is because it develops lots of torque.

That makes it very effortless to drive when manoeuvring in the City. And means that it can really pour on power when you need to overtake.

To give you some idea of the Scorpio's unstressed performance, we can tell you that its maximum speed is 127 mph* And its acceleration time from 0-60 mph is down to 10.3 seconds*

Add to this, a silky smooth four speed automatic, with its long legged overdrive top, and, of course, the anti-lock braking system and you have a truly accomplished long distance car.

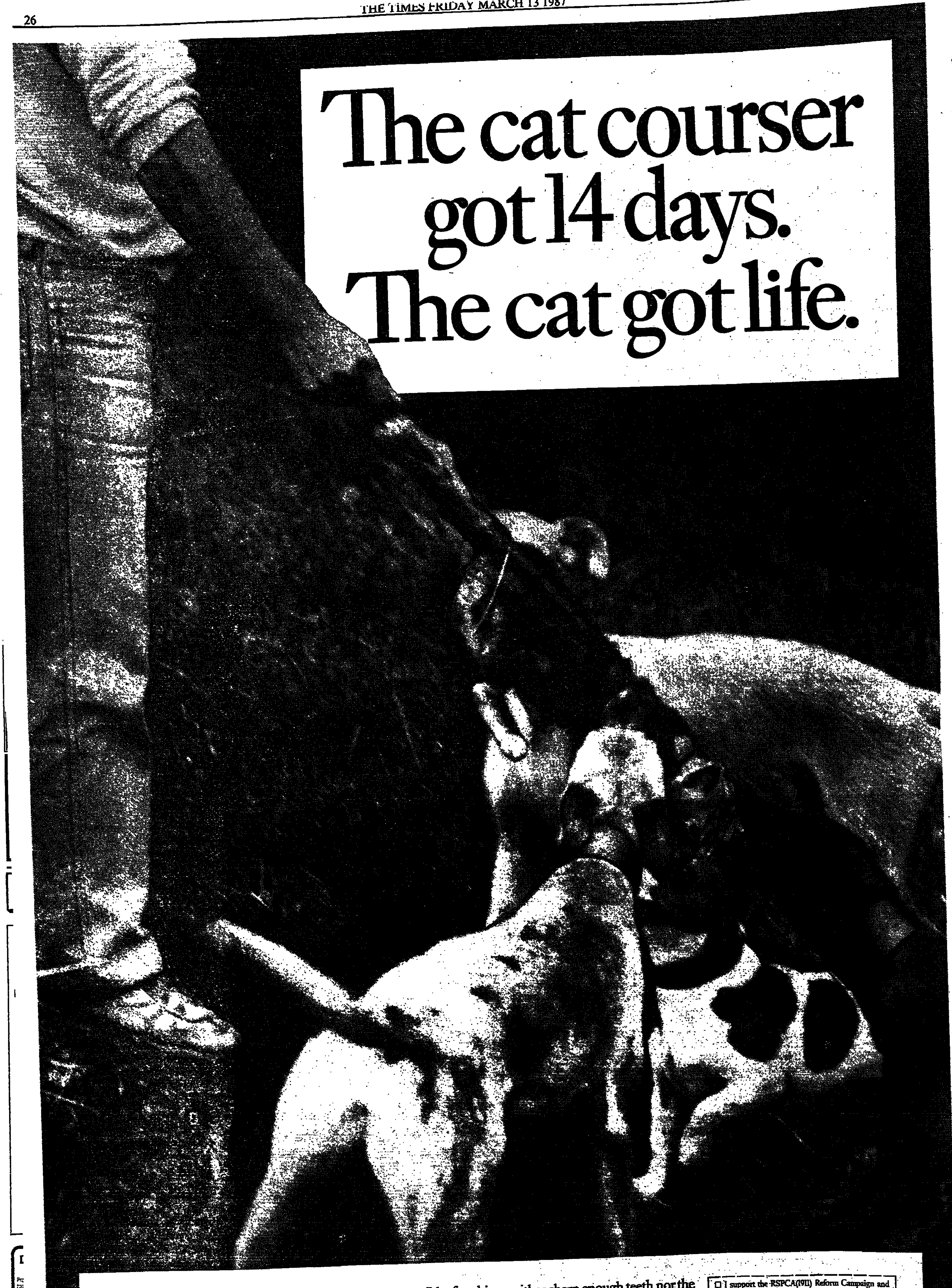
Luxurious too. Even air conditioning and windscreen rapid de-ice is standard.

And everything that can be power assisted is power assisted, even the back seat adjustment.

Not that we expect you to spend much time in the back. The Scorpio is far too enjoyable to drive. *Ford computed figs.

THE NEW FORD SCORPIO 2·9

هكذا من الإصل



The cat courser got 14 days. The cat got life.

This is cat coursing.

A man steals a domestic cat and then, callously, sets dogs onto it for his own entertainment and that of his friends.

The man who organised this little get-together was caught.

He got 14 days.

The man responsible for this photograph and others like it was fined £250.

Little more than a slap on the wrist. Very much a slap in the face for Justice.

How can we hope to stop these revolting activities if the law has neither sharp enough teeth nor the claws to fight with?

The 1911 Protection of animals act must be updated to allow for stiffer penalties.

If the situation appals you as much as it does us write to your MP or please send a contribution.

☐ I support the RSPCA(1911) Reform Campaign and have written to my MP. ☐ Please send a free 1911 Reform Campaign information pack. ☐ I would like to help the RSPCA and enclose a donation.

Name____________________

Address____________________

T3

RSPCA

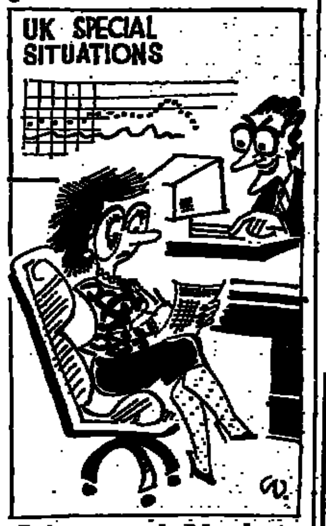
TO: RSPCA, FREEPOST, HORSHAM, SUSSEX RH12 1ZA.

هكذا من الإصل

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Friendly neighbours

Could it be that the house is jinxed? It certainly seems to bring its owners more than their fair share of unwelcome publicity. The £1.2 million, six bedroom Hampstead mansion of Nahum Vaskevitch, the former Merrill Lynch corporate finance man accused of taking part in an illegal $4 million insider trading scheme by the US Securities and Exchange Commission, was previously owned by virile Burton boss Sir Ralph Halpern. Clearly a shrewd negotiator, pint-sized Vaskevitch persuaded Halpern to part with the house for just £250,000 five years ago. Of Russian origin, but with dual British and Israeli nationality, he lives there with his Israeli wife Ariella and *their* two *small* children. Neighbours in star-studded Redington Road include *Upstairs, Downstairs* actor Gordon Jackson, John Alderton and Pauline Collins, and the Sultan of Brunei. Actor Tom Conti, who lives across the road, defended the "resting" Vaskevitch by saying that when he first moved in Vaskevitch's wife welcomed them by baking them a cake. "I don't know anything about his business activities," he says, "but it was a nice gesture."



"Leicester and Manchester City ... Grimsby Town and Shrewsbury ... Portsmouth and Sunderland ..."

Spurred on

The late George Berry would have been proud. A life-long Tottenham Hotspur supporter, his son Tony, chairman of Blue Arrow, Britain's biggest recruitment agency, tells me that his appointment to the board of the north London Club would have meant more to his father than the chairmanship of any number of public companies. "He would have regarded being chairman of a £230 million company as insignificant compared to being on the Tottenham board," says 45-year-old Berry, who became a non-executive director yesterday after buying a £440,000 share stake. As a 16-year-old, Berry, who grew up three miles from the ground, played for Tottenham's youth team. "I wanted to become a professional footballer, but the manager, Bill Nicholson, told me I wasn't good enough. Looking back on my life now, it was probably just as well."

● Carcanet, the privately-owned, non-profitmaking publishing house run by Bob Gavron, has been given the thumbs up by the literary world. Its recently published collection of poems written by Elizabeth Jennings has won a W H Smith 1987 literary award. Gavron, who also owns the Folio Society in his private capacity, is additionally chairman of quoted printing group St Ives.

Staple diet

Few institutional occasions are as congenial as the Institute of Actuaries' President's dinner at Staple Inn, High Holborn. The hall itself must take some of the credit. In the middle ages it was the hall of the Merchants of the Staple. Later it became an Inn of Chancery. Dickens found a place for it in Edwin Drood and the American writer Nathaniel Hawthorne came across this "little island of quiet" in 1850 and decided there was "not a quieter spot in England than this." The lawyers remained until 1884 when the property came up for sale. Half the area became the site of the Patent Office; the remainder was bought by the Prudential for £68,000 and became, in 1887, the home of that small but erudite profession, the Actuaries, who had established their own Institute in 1848. Thus Marshall Field who seems to have acquired in his maturer years an appropriate Dickensian look has the signal honour of being President in the hundredth *year of the Institute's* tenancy. As the excellent host he is, he had thought to invite Lord Hunt of Tanworth to be his principal guest. The chairman of the Pru was clearly satisfied with the tenant of Staple Inn, while conceding that the Pru had made better financial investments.

Carol Leonard

Battle for out-of-town centres takes its toll

Although there are good returns to be had, some developers are retreating

Winning use of wasteland: John Hall, the Geordie builder, at the opening of the Metro Centre, outside Gateshead

Almost 100 large edge-of-town prospective shopping developments, nearly half with a minimum 400,000 sq ft of floor space, are identified in a new round-Britain survey. In particular, the survey demonstrates how the avalanche of schemes is bringing increasing clashes, with some competing developers retreating from the crush in some areas.

The survey is the latest by the Oxford Institute of Retail Management at Templeton College, and comes as controversy over the increase in edge-of-town shopping developments is gathering speed

The survey identifies 39 prospective schemes as large outlying regional shopping centres of the type familiar in north America. Such schemes are often about 1 million sq ft or more, with nine close to London's M25 orbital motorway.

Dr Russell Schiller, head of research at Hillier Parker, the estate agent, is on record as believing that there is scope for a maximum of 35 to 40 full-sized regional shopping centres, with one third in and around London. Mr Jonathan Reynolds, a research associate at the Oxford institute, also believes this is about the right level dictated by commercial considerations.

Another 52 shopping developments are monitored in the survey, mostly with floor space between 200,000 and 400,000 sq ft, which would have a sub-regional impact.

Large American-style shopping malls have emerged fairly slowly as local authorities, worried about the effect on high street trade, have put on the planning brakes. Brent Cross, at the junction of the M1 and London's north circular road, was a pioneer. Other developments, such as the central mall of 1 million sq ft at Milton Keynes and Eldon Square in Newcastle upon Tyne (soon to be extended) were at the heart of cities.

Metro Centre, created on 115 acres of industrial wasteland outside Gateshead, is the shape of things to come. It is in business already with a House of Fraser department store, a BHS and Marks and Spencer's first out-of-town development. It will eventually run to well over 1.5 million sq ft.

Cameron Hall, the Metro Centre developer, has two smaller Metros planned, at Cleveland on Teeside and Exeter in the West Country. The Tees Metro will have 600,000 sq ft and the other 400,000 sq ft.

Mr John Hall, Metro's creator, looked at prospects for another mini-Metro at Rover Group's old automotive factory site at Bathgate, West Lothian. But he backed out of negotiations after planning permission was secured by Heron Corporation for a 400,000 sq ft extension to the Almondvale Centre in central Livingstone, bringing this retail complex to about 750,000 sq ft. Livingstone is less than 10 miles from Bathgate.

Landmark, owned by London Land and Bovis, *has* applied for a retailing centre of close on 1 million sq ft at a Whitrigg site at Bathgate.

Rover has plans for a £100 million regional shopping and leisure centre of 1 million sq ft, intended to serve central and southern Scotland.

But this part of the Edinburgh-Glasgow corridor is looking potentially overcrowded as there are other plans, such as the South Gyle, Edinburgh, development of 400,000 sq ft, involving M&S as well as Asda, the superstores chain.

At the Glasgow end of the corridor, a £175 million plan for 1 million sq ft of retail and leisure development at Motherwell has been turned down, as the site is in the "green belt." An appeal should prove a test of how tough a line the Department of the Environment will take on big centres on the edge of towns.

A spate of schemes in the greater Manchester area has led to a region-wide shopping study to help shape a coordinated policy for the area.

The study estimates that central Manchester businesses stand to lose trade of £33 million a year. It means that at best only two out of 10 schemes of regional and sub-regional size will be built.

Among the Manchester area schemes is one for a 1 million sq ft development at Barton Dock, Sale; another similarly sized on a former sewage works at Barton Lock, Eccles: and a 1.25 million sq ft shopping centre with leisure and sports facilities on Shell UK's 300-acre site at Carrington.

South Yorkshire is another battleground where one protagonist has withdrawn. Stadium Developments is planning the 1.5 million sq ft Parkgate Centre at Rotherham

A casualty among the regional centre plans for the London motorway box was a Thurrock, Essex, proposal by Town and City Properties and RTZ Estates for a shopping and leisure complex covering more than 1 million sq ft.

This Dolphin Park scheme has been withdrawn as part of a pre-inquiry deal with Capital & Counties and Pearson, which are seeking permission to develop an 80-acre site at Thurrock.

Clearly either planning inquiries or the application of commercial logic will shake out a number of the edge-of-town centres now on the table. But some initial monitoring by the Oxford institute of the North-east's Metro Centre since it opened last autumn shows what prizes can be won by those schemes that do negotiate the many hurdles and open their doors

In socio-economic terms, Metro Centre shoppers have a high profile, with an emphasis on car-borne ABC1 consumers. Average spending per visit is £44, a good figure for the area.

Derek Harris
Industrial Editor

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

C & W hung up on the Oriental wire

It is not easy to communicate with the Japanese in language that you are sure they understand; it may be necessary to abandon words and simply act in ways that cannot be misunderstood. Such a point may shortly be reached in the trade dialogue between Britain and Japan: for despite a long a continuous verbal barrage against Japan's devious protectionism, the barriers remain high, vicious and almost totally secure.

The Oriental wire has just claimed 11 British companies interested in bidding to supply equipment and services for the new Kansai International Airport near Osaka, and another potential victim, Cable & Wireless, is writhing on it. As Dr Yoshio Tekeuchi, the KIA president, sees no room for foreign companies in building the artificial island where the airport will be sited, nor in building the bridge leading to it, all overseas companies have been struck off the list for three-quarters of the work *(£3 billion), while their chances of* getting anything at all from the rest (£1 billion) are dimmed by the designated tender system which favours Japanese firms.

The case of Cable & Wireless, if it ends in the way the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications and the old imperial guard manifestly intends it will, will be even more blatant. C&W has 20 per cent in the International Digital Communications consortium which is bidding for a licence to operate in Japan's huge international telecommunications market. The other members are the Japanese trading company C Itoh, also with 20 per cent, a host of other illustrious Japanese companies, including the all powerful Toyota with 10 per cent, and one American (Pacific Telesis). Only in terms of C&W's wealth of experience and high technological competence is IDC in a real sense "foreign."

But herein lies the perceived threat. IDC's rival, International Communications Japan, is both wholly Japanese and without any particular skills that would help to distinguish it in the field of international telecommunications. Whereas IDC would build new capacity that would include a trans-Pacific cable, market new products and services and undercut rates charged by the telephone monopoly, Kokusai Denshin Denwa, ITJ whose members include the big three trading houses — Mitsubishi, Mitsui and Sumitomo, as well as Matsushita and again, Toyota — would simply play patsy with KDD, leasing lines and reselling KDD equipment.

Mrs Thatcher last week described the C&W application as "a test case" and she has given the Japanese Prime Minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone, the benefit of her views. Mr Nakasone and and both the foreign and trade ministries appear to have recognized that there is more in this issue than the award of a licence to operate in a major Japanese market. There is a tilting in the Japanese trading situation vis-a-vis the rest of the world. While the balance of payments surpluses are huge and will continue to rise in US dollar terms for some time ahead, the yen's appreciation means that imports into Japan are likely to expand and Japanese growth in future will depend less on exports and more on stimulating domestic demand. At the same time the Japanese, in order to escape some of the effects of the rising yen, will move faster toward setting up their own or joint manufacturing ventures in other countries.

Mr Nakasone has publicly recognized that no longer having an undervalued currency will, or should, impose structural changes in Japan and a rethinking of certain attitudes inside Japan Incoporated. It would be unfortunate for the Japanese if at a time when these changes are being forced on them they were also to be confronted with a concerted move by the United States, *Britain and other European Community* countries to discrimate against Japanese exports.

Already Japan is on notice from the Americans and ourselves that if they wish their incursions into financial services in New York and London to continue and expand, reciprocal access to Tokyo markets is an essential part of the price. If C&W is blocked, after the efforts the Japanese put up to reduce American participation in satellites (Hughes) and domestic telecommuncations (Motorola), it would surely be the signal to raise the flag, beat the drum and fight back in domestic battlefields where the odds favour the home side more

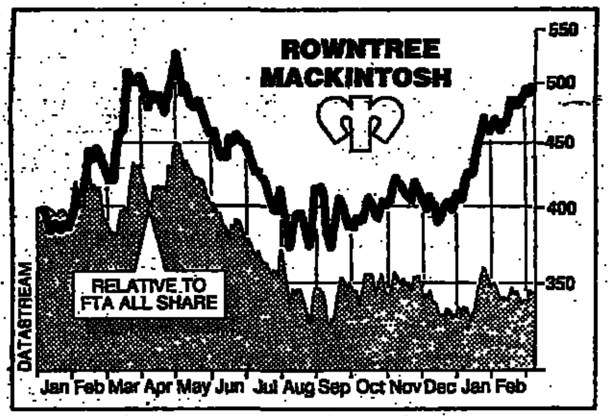
The Japanese have been almost totally successful in keeping out companies where the advantage lay with the foreign exporter. Their idea of a joke is to welcome exports which have virtually no chance against the home made article: cars for example. In return they have been allowed enormous access to major markets in the West. That is not to deny the quality and competitiveness of their goods; but the game, if it is to be played to everyone's satisfaction, does require creditor nations to understand and carry out their obligations.

For every £1 worth of telecommunications goods the UK exported to Japan in 1985, the Japanese sold us £80 worth. Where there is a genuine opportunity to redress this imbalance with an export that would also benefit Japan, it would be cynicism of a high order for the Japanese to close it. There would be no room left for comforting illusions about Japanese attitudes or intentions. It would be a time for action.

The Japanese will decide the fate of C&W's involvement before the end of this year. They should be made to understand that fudged compromises are unacceptable.

TEMPUS

Rowntree's rating has too bland a flavour



Kit Kat is 50 years old this year. As Rowntree's leading brand, accounting for £255 million of sales in 99 countries, it is representative of the growing international flavour of the group.

The capital investment involved in product development is considerable as is the ongoing advertising expenditure. In time, however, rising volumes lead to economies of scale with high margins and cash generation becoming features of an established brand.

Its British market share — at about 20 per cent — edged ahead during 1986 and trading margins widened.

In Europe, a long-standing problem area, there are signs of improvement but there is a long way to go since margins and return on capital are a third of those earned elsewhere in the business.

Australia did well in 1986 with trading margins widening by three percentage points.

Growth from the British grocery businesses was excellent. The profits advance of more than a third from Sun Pat was overshadowed by the tenfold increase at Holgates, the health food company.

Canadian profits were down reflecting a more competitive market. However, in 1987, North American profits should match Britain and Europe.

The US is the likely area for acquisitions; the retail sector continues to be attractive — Original Cookie has, for example, been very successful.

The gearing ratio is 49 per cent but interest is five times covered. Yesterday's convertible further strengthens the balance sheet.

Rowntree is not doing any worse than any other company with a strong range of branded products operating in international markets. Admittedly its 11 per cent compound growth in earnings and dividends is unexciting, the defensive qualities of the business should not be disregarded.

Profits will move ahead sharply this year reflecting new acquisitions. Barring any dramatic exchange rate movements — there were £5 million of exchange losses in 1986 — profits this year should reach £115 million.

The shares are selling at a discount to the sector. However, unless the group promotes itself as an investment in the international market-place as well as it has its products, the shares are unlikely to enjoy a re-rating.

Next

One of the advantages of building a business from scratch is that the consumer has few preconceptions as to what to expect and the management does not have to compromise with store space *which does not meet its* requirements.

Next has shed its Hepworth inheritance and is building a multi-faceted, high street retail chain which is product-led. This segment of the business is growing fast with square footage set to increase by 40 per cent in the next 12 months.

Niche outlets selling lingerie, shoes and accessories are doing well as is Next Too, an offshoot of the women's clothing chain. By the end of the year, 40 new outlets selling clothes for children in the two to 12 bracket will also be well established.

Next for Men has done *especially well* and there are plans to expand this market further with Next for Gentlemen, aimed at the more mature individual.

The high street formula appears to work, so attention is now being focused on the mail order business. The traditional Grattan operation has benefited from merging with Next. Margins have improved as it moves away from classic agency selling.

Developing costs of the Next Mail catalogue could be £2 million to £3 million this year although there will be no profit contribution until 1988/89.

Service and quality will be of paramount *importance* as the group strives to take mail order away from its historic credit related origins. The products will be design-led and will not overlap with the retail chain.

The warehousing and computerization will be run separately from the rest of the business although the considerable database from Grattan and the Club 24 operations will be crucial in launching the catalogue.

The precise profit potential of the new mail order operation is unknown. However, with 1988/89 profit estimates currently standing at about *£90 million, there is scope to* increase them as the full potential of this new concept becomes more widely known.

For the present year to the end of January 1988, Next should make more than £70 million. Given the prospects of the business and its active management style, the shares have further to go.

British Telecom

British Telecom, very much the people's share with 1.5 million shareholders, delivered all that was expected of it yesterday by turning out a third-quarter pretax figure 11.9 per cent higher at £506 million, to make a nine months' tally of £1.51 billion.

But it failed to convince the market that it would aggressively attack its cost base — and soon — so the net result was a stifled yawn and a weaker share price.

It could, however, be dangerous not to own the shares. The odds on an early election are shortening, a returned *Conservative* Government would lessen the chances of BT being returned to State ownership, and a second public offering of shares in a hyped-up marketing exercise — with positive profits forecasts for 1988 and beyond — can only raise BT's profile. Foreign investment interest is already a respectable 10 per cent.

Ironically, the recent strike at BT could work in its favour if salary cost savings during the overtime ban work out at about £50 million. But while the full impact of the disruption has yet to be calculated, fourth-quarterly results should still move ahead, and the year's outcome is expected to top £2.03 billion pretax, against £1.83 billion.

Capital expenditure will continue at a high level, but BT has given a warning that competitive pressures are building up. However, telephones are still a growth industry; telephone call volume increased 7 per cent for inland calls and 11 per cent for international calls in the first nine months. With gearing a modest 35 per cent, the balance sheet remains strong.

The word from BT is that "our tails are up." Yesterday, however, the shares were 4p weaker at 242p post results, and relative to the market *they have not been the* world's greatest performers.

But on the basis of the 130p offer the people's love affair should continue for some time. And more aggressive news that the cost-manning base is being reduced, with its obvious benefit to profits, could turn the yawns into cheers.

50th ANNIVERSARY
KitKat
1937
1987

Strong brands produce good results.

PRELIMINARY RESULTS 1986

- Kit Kat top selling UK confectionery brand.
- Share of UK confectionery market up.
- Better profits in Europe.
- Sunmark starts well in the USA.
- 33% of trading profits from North America.
- Australian profits double.
- Final Dividend up 12%.

Results in Brief

	1986 £m	1985 £m
Turnover	1290.4	1205.2
Trading profit	105.7	101.3
Profit before taxation	84.0	79.3
Earnings per ordinary share	35.0p	34.8p

Copies of the Annual Report will be available from the Company Secretary, Rowntree Mackintosh plc, PO Box 202 York YO1 1XY.

Rowntree Mackintosh

هكذا من الإصل

Everyone stands to benefit from British Telecom's success.

British Telecom is pleased to announce another successful and profitable three months.

This success is essential, because it allows us to continue to fund our huge investment programme. We're investing more than ever before – about £40 million a week – on developments which will benefit everybody.

We will spend over £1,200 million in 1987 on modernising and expanding our telephone systems, to offer faster connection, more capacity and clearer calls.

But some of our more challenging work is in the development of wider uses for telecommunications.

Such as telephones in cars and commercial vehicles, including models which can be used without the driver's hands leaving the wheel. Soon you will get used to finding telephones in trains and coaches as well.

If you've booked a holiday at a travel agent recently, it's likely that British Telecom provided the connection to the tour operator's computer and gave you faster, more reliable reservations.

Other recent innovations are being put to new uses. ChildLine, the telephone advisory service for children in trouble or danger, was made possible by our 0800 service, which is free to callers.

When you watch the Cup Final – or almost anything else on television from this country or overseas – British Telecom plays a major role in bringing the programme into your home.

But British Telecom has also been in the news for a less positive reason: the recent strike.

We are sorry that services to some of our customers were disrupted. The vast majority were unaffected, however, thanks to the resilience of our network and the efforts of our managers and staff who continued working.

We believe that the terms on which the strike was settled give us, and our employees, an excellent basis on which to build for the future.

The changes in working practice we have negotiated will help us serve our customers more efficiently.

Just as our record investment levels are designed to provide improved services for all in the years ahead.

Nine months financial highlights

- Turnover up 13.8% to £7,009m.
- Profit before taxation up 11.7% to £1,512m.
- Capital expenditure of £1,526m wholly funded from within the business.
- Over 90% of capital purchases from UK suppliers.

Third quarter and nine months results to 31 December 1986

	Third quarter 3 months ended 31 Dec (unaudited) 1986 £m	1985 £m	Cumulative 9 months ended 31 Dec (unaudited) 1986 £m	1985 £m
Turnover	**2,395**	2,111	**7,009**	6,160
Operating profit	**578**	520	**1,720**	1,557
Profit before taxation	**506**	452	**1,512**	1,354
Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders	**306**	252	**916**	760
Earnings per ordinary share	**5.1p**	4.2p	**15.3p**	12.7p

British TELECOM

Investing for growth.

If you would like a copy of the interim results leaflet or if you have any queries as an investor, please call us on this LinkLine number, which enables you to telephone from anywhere in the UK for the price of a local call: LinkLine 0345 010707. For daily information on the British Telecom share price, dial Shareline on: London 01-246 8022 Birmingham 021-246 8056 Edinburgh 031-447 0333 Glasgow 041-248 4400 Liverpool 051-488 0797 Manchester 061-246 8050 Belfast (0232) 8030 Bristol (0272) 215444 Cardiff (0222) 8037 Leeds (0532) 8038. British Telecommunications plc, 81 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AJ. Telephone 01-356 5000.

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates %
Clearing Banks 10½
Finance House 11

Discount Market Loans %
Overnight High: 11 Low 10½
Week fixed: 11⅛

Treasury Bills (Discount %)

Buying		Selling	
2 mnth	9 11/16	2 mnth	9 9/16
3 mnth	9⅝	3 mnth	9½

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)

1 mnth	10 1/32-9 15/16	2 mnth	9 11/16-9 9/16
3 mnth	9 17/32-9 7/16	6 mnth	9 9/32-9 3/16

Trade Bills (Discount %)

1 mnth	10 21/32	2 mnth	10 5/16
3 mnth	10 5/32	6 mnth	9 29/32

Interbank (%)
Overnight: open 11⅛ close 10½

1 week	11⅛-11	6 mnth	9 13/16-9 11/16
1 mnth	10⅝-10½	9 mnth	9¾-9⅝
3 mnth	9 15/16-9⅞	12 mnth	9¾-9⅝

Local Authority Deposits (%)

2 days	10⅞	7 days	10½
1 mnth	10	3 mnth	9¾
6 mnth	9½	12 mnth	9½

Local Authority Bonds (%)

1 mnth	10 9/16-10 5/16	2 mnth	10 3/16-9 15/16
3 mnth	10-9¾	6 mnth	9 13/16-9 9/16
9 mnth	9 13/16-9 9/16	12 mnth	9 13/16-9 9/16

Sterling CDs (%)

1 mnth	10⅝-10½	3 mnth	9¾-9⅝
6 mnth	9 11/16-9 9/16	12 mnth	9 17/32-9 15/32

Dollar CDs (%)

1 mnth	6.50-6.45	3 mnth	6.45-6.40
6 mnth	6.45-6.40	12 mnth	6.50-6.45

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Dollar			
7 days	6¼-6 1/16	call	6⅜-5⅞
3 mnth	6⅜-6¼	1 mnth	6⅜-6¼
		6 mnth	6½-6⅜
Deutschmark			
7 days	4-3⅞	call	4¼-3¾
3 mnth	4 1/16-3 15/16	1 mnth	4-3⅞
		6 mnth	4 1/16-3 15/16
French Franc			
7 days	7 13/16-7 11/16	call	8½-7½
3 mnth	7 15/16-7 13/16	1 mnth	7⅞-7¾
		6 mnth	8 1/16-7 15/16
Swiss Franc			
7 days	1⅞-1	call	1¾-¾
3 mnth	4 3/16-4 1/16	1 mnth	4 9/16-4 7/16
		6 mnth	4 1/16-3 15/16
Yen			
7 days	4 3/16-4 1/16	call	4¼-3¾
3 mnth	4⅜-4¼	1 mnth	4 11/16-4 9/16
		6 mnth	4⅜-4¼

GOLD

Gold:$409.75-410.25
Krugerrand (per coin, ex vat):
$ 412.00-415.00 (£259.25-261.25)
Sovereigns (new, ex vat):
$ 98.00-99.00 (£61.75-62.50)
Platinum
$ 535.00 (£337.10)
Silver
$ 5.6000-5.6200 (£3.5250-3.5450)

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES	
Barbour Indx (215p)	350 +5
Br Airways (as)	122½ +3½
Capital radio (105p)	154 +19
Dale Group (110p)	131
Forward Gp (125p)	135
Geest (125p)	225
Glentrea (15p)	43 -2
Gordon Russell (190p)	242 +2
Halls Homes (95p)	168
Hewetson (70p)	87 +2
Hobson Pub (250p)	350 +5
Hornby (100p)	108 +2
JSB Elec (115p)	136 +1
Johnson Fry (150p)	181
Lloyds Chemist (105p)	196 -2
Lon & Metro (145p)	215 +13
MIL (144p)	186
Misys PLC (95p)	134
Mayborn (102p)	123 +5
Nobo (152p)	170 +2
Plum Hldgs (90p)	146
Prism Leisure (120p)	153 +7
RCO (95p)	101
Regina H Beauty (20p)	37
Sanders Sydney (100p)	142
Scandinavian Bk (210p)	245 +2
Sinclair G S (90p)	99 +1
Thornton G W (135p)	173 -1
TSB Group (100p)	77¾ +¾
Virgin (140p)	171½ +1½
Ward Group (97p)	127 -1
Wilson Bowden (130p)	139

RIGHTS ISSUES	
Allebone N/P	17 +7
Burgess F/P	263
City Site Est N/P	£12 +1
Cookson F/P	555 -6
Cannon St F/P	227
Widney N/P	8
Wiggins F/P	173

(Issue price in brackets).

APPOINTMENTS

Reed International: **Mrs Jan Shawe** has been made a director, corporate relations from the end of April, succeeding Mr Peter Smith.

British Linen Assets: **Mr James Young** has become the chairman.

NFC Contract Distribution: **Mr Derek Hobbs** has been named operations director. **Mr Geoff Mee** becomes personnel director.

Briggs Amasco: **Mr Archie McKinlay** becomes managing director, **Mr Brian King** becomes assistant managing director and **Mr Don Cooper** financial director.

Ametalco: **Mr Kenneth Davies, Mrs Helen Feeney** and **Mr Thomas Johnston** have joined the board.

Pinpoint: **Mr John English** is now client service director.

ESG: **Mr Robert Lavar** becomes a director.

Cussons (International): **Mr Robert Jones** joins the board as marketing director.

British Satellite Broadcasting (BSB): **Mr Graham Grist** has been appointed financial and commercial director.

Grant Thornton: **Mr Jason Cross** has been made a partner in the London office.

Control Techniques Group: **Mr Norman Simmonds** has become vice president of its subsidiary Burton Industries.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Allied Lyons (*398)	330	75	83	93	1	3	5
	360	48	60	70	4	12	15
	390	25	40	50	15	22	27
British Gas (*81)	60	21½	23	27	½	1	1
	70	12	15½	19	1	2¾	3¾
	80	4¾	10	13	3¾	6	8
British Airways (*120)	100	21	25	28	1	4	5
	110	13	17	22	2½	7	10
	120	8	11½	16	6	12½	16
BP (*798)	700	108	128	148	4	9	18
	750	65	87	110	11	20	33
	800	32	60	77	30	37	48
Cons Gold (*815)	700	124	144	152	3	10	15
	750	80	100	114	8	20	30
	800	45	72	90	27	37	50
Courtaulds (*378)	330	55	62	77	3	8	12
	360	32	45	62	9	19	22
	390	19	35	49	27	34	38
	420	9	21	35	48	51	54
Com Union (*328)	300	35½	47	54	7	12	16
	330	15	29	38	17	22	25
	360	7	18	26	39	45	50
Cable & Wire (*357)	325	40	—	—	2	—	—
	350	22	—	—	11	—	—
	360	—	35	52	—	27	37
	390	8	19	38	35	44	55
GEC (*212)	200	18	30	36	3	9	10
	220	8	17	25	15	19	23
	240	3½	10	19	32	36	40
Grand Met (*490)	420	76	90	98	1	3	5
	460	42	60	70	5	15	18
	500	17	35	48	25	30	37
	550	6	15	32	65	68	72
ICI (*1318)	1300	67	110	135	35	55	80
	1350	42	85	110	65	80	105
	1400	22	65	90	98	115	130
	1450	13	45	70	140	150	160
Land Securities (*370)	330	44	50	60	1	5	7
	360	20	30	41	7	13	16
	390	6	13	22	24	29	33
Marks & Spen (*238)	200	40	46	60	2	3	7
	220	22	29	36	4	10	13
	240	9	17	25	12	18	23
Shell Trans (*1174)	1100	80	95	120	22	37	47
	1150	40	60	85	45	55	70
	1200	23	38	52	80	87	100
Trafalgar House (*332)	280	56	63	75	2	3	7
	300	36	46	58	4	8	12
	330	16	26	41	15	20	26
TSB (*78)	70	9	12½	14½	1	2½	3
	80	3	5½	7½	5	6½	7
	90	¾	1½	—	14	14	—
Woolworth (*804)	700	120	135	155	3	10	15
	750	73	90	107	12	20	28
	800	35	55	75	30	40	55

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Beecham (*545)	420	127	138	145	1	2	3
	460	87	102	112	2	5	8
	500	47	70	90	1½	13	20
	550	9	37	58	13	35	42
Boots (*287)	280	12	28	34	6	17	23
	300	4	20	25	17	30	36
	330	1	11	16	45	50	58
BTR (*336)	280	57	60	75	½	4	7
	300	37	45	58	1	7	12
	330	11	28	38	6	18	23
Bass (*958)	800	160	175	200	1	5	12
	850	110	130	155	2	13	20
	900	60	95	125	3	27	38
Blue Circle (*749)	650	100	105	125	1	8	13
	700	50	72	90	2	17	25
	750	10	43	68	15	33	47
De Beers (*1068)	950	135	170	205	4	28	53
	1000	90	140	180	5	40	65
	1050	—	120	160	—	65	90
	1100	—	105	145	—	90	115
Dixons (*365)	330	56	68	82	¼	4	6
	360	26	46	54	1	12	18
	390	5	30	40	12	26	32
GKN (*320)	280	41	43	50	1	7	11
	300	23	30	38	4	17	21
	330	4	14	23	14	32	35
	360	1	8	13	42	53	56
Glaxo (*1526)	1500	45	120	170	17	70	90
	1550	25	95	140	48	100	115
	1600	8	75	115	85	125	140
	1650	4	55	100	130	160	170

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Hanson (*172)	135	37	41	45½	½	1	2
	150	22	26½	33	½	2½	4½
	165	8	17½	23	1	7	8½
	180	1½	9½	14½	8	13½	15
Jaguar (*555)	550	13	40	62	7	28	37
	600	1	20	45	45	67	73
	650	½	12	28	95	100	105
Sears (*138)	130	—	15½	18	—	5½	6½
	140	—	10½	13	—	10½	13½
	160	—	2½	6½	—	25½	26½
Tesco (*485)	420	68	78	92	1	7	12
	460	28	48	65	3	15	22
	500	4	25	42	18	33	37
Thorn EMI (*606)	460	148	165	173	½	1	2
	500	108	125	133	½	2	3
	550	58	80	92	½	12	15
	600	12	53	63	10	30	38
THF (*216)	180	36	43	51	¼	2	4
	200	16	29	35	1	9	12
	220	2½	18	24	8	16	21

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Brit Aero (*636)	600	60	78	—	24	35	—
	650	33	55	68	47	62	62
	700	14	35	50	83	88	90
BAT Inds (*511)	420	93	105	—	1	1½	—
	460	57	72	—	6	10	—
	500	33	47	62	22	27	32
	550	14	27	35	57	60	63
Barclays (*524)	500	50	70	77	17	23	33
	550	20	40	47	38	50	55
	600	7	18	25	80	87	92
Brit Telecom (*242)	220	29	35	42	2½	6½	10
	240	16	23	30	9	15	17
	260	7½	14	19	21	27	28
Cadbury Schwpps (*237)	240	13	22	32	17	21	26
	260	8	16	24	32	35	37
	280	4	12	—	52	53	—
Guinness (*324)	300	42	57	65	13	22	27
	330	23	37	47	28	38	40
	360	9	22	—	48	53	—
Ladbroke (*433)	390	52	65	—	5	12	—
	420	31	45	58	17	22	25
	460	12	23	35	40	45	50
LASMO (*217)	160	60	68	—	1½	5	—
	180	41	50	57	5	10	12
	200	27	36	43	12	17	19
Midland Bank (*638)	550	105	115	—	7	12	—
	600	80	70	87	14	25	32
	650	27	38	57	33	45	50
P & O (*623)	550	78	95	—	5	15	—
	600	40	60	80	20	28	35
	650	15	35	50	48	57	60
Racal (*243)	220	24	46	52	6	10	14
	240	18	33	42	13	18	25
	260	7½	21	32	26	32	38
RTZ (*725)	650	92	110	—	9	13	—
	700	60	84	107	23	32	45
	750	35	60	84	52	62	75
	800	15	38	57	95	102	117
Vaal Reef (*94)	80	19	22½	28	2¼	4	6
	90	11½	16¼	20	5	9	10¼
	100	6	11½	12½	12	13½	16¼

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Lonrho (*276)	220	57	62	67	1	1½	2
	240	37	44	49	1	3½	5
	260	17	30	33	2	7	10
	280	3	16	21	8	14	19
	300	1	8½	13	25	28	32

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Tr 11¾% 1991 (*£108)	104	4 1/16	4¾	—	¼	¾	—
	106	2 9/16	3 1/16	3¼	¾	1 5/16	1¾
	108	1 9/16	2 1/16	2¼	1½	2 3/16	2½
	110	¾	—	—	2¾	—	—
Tr 11¾% 03/07 (*£121)	112	8¾	9 1/16	—	1/16	¾	—
	114	6¾	7¾	—	⅜	1¼	—
	116	5¾	6¾	6¾	¾	1¾	2 3/16
	118	4	4¾	5¾	1¾	2 5/16	4 7/16
	120	2¾	4 1/16	4¾	2 5/16	3¾	3¾

		Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
FT-SE Index (*1981)	1700	288	305	—	—	1	2	—	—
	1750	238	255	—	—	1	3	—	—
	1800	188	212	230	—	1	7	17	—
	1850	138	170	190	—	2	15	25	—
	1900	95	130	150	—	8	25	38	—
	1950	55	973	115	140	20	40	58	70
	2000	28	70	87	110	47	70	85	90
	2050	13	45	67	90	80	100	112	120

March 12, 1987. Total contracts 46739. Calls 31843. Puts 14896.
FT-SE Index. Calls:382. Puts:762

*Underlying security price.

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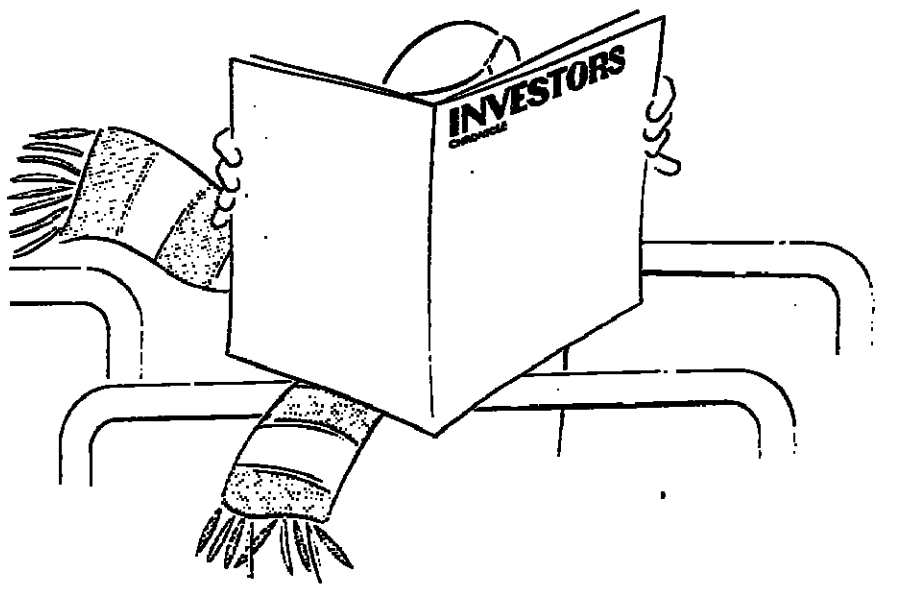

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INVESTORS CHRONICLE

Money – made easy.

Financial Times Business Information

John Lewis Partnership plc

department stores
and Waitrose supermarkets

Preliminary results for the year to 31 January 1987

Profits rise 28% to £105m

£42m bonus for Partners

	1986/87 53 weeks £m	1985/86 52 weeks £m	% change
Sales	1,568.4	1,369.6	+15
Trading Profit	122.4	97.1	+26
Interest	3.9	3.5	+11
Pension Fund Contributions	13.3	11.5	+16
Profit before tax	105.2	82.1	+28
Taxation	23.8	21.6	+10
Preference Dividends	0.2	0.3	−33
Surplus available for profit sharing and retentions	81.2	60.2	+35
Partnership Bonus	42.2	30.5	+38
Retentions	39.0	29.7	+31

Profit Sharing All the equity capital of John Lewis Partnership plc is held in trust for the benefit of the workers in the business. The profits remaining after taxation, preference dividends, pensions and allocations to reserves are distributed yearly among the workers as Partnership Bonus in proportion to their pay. This year the rate of distribution will be 24% of pay (1985/6 20%).

For further details please telephone 01-637 3434 ext 6221/2 or write to Chief Information Officer, 4 Old Cavendish Street, London W1A 1EX.

هكذا من الإهمل

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Steady at the close

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began Monday. Dealings end March 20. §Contango day March 23. Settlement day March 30. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are recorded at 5pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close and may differ from changes calculated by comparing 5pm prices, published the previous day. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks, volumes are on page 25

Portfolio —Gold—

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Ryl Bk Scot (aa)	Banks,Discount	
2	Executex Clothes	Drapery,Stores	
3	Babcock	Industrials A-D	
4	Zetters	Leisure	
5	TV-AM	Cinemas,TV	
6	Bramall (CD)	Motors,Aircraft	
7	Tunstall	Electricals	
8	Baaro	Industrials A-D	
9	BETEC	Industrials A-D	
10	Hambros	Banks,Discount	
11	Chemring	Industrials A-D	
12	Warrington (T)	Building,Roads	
13	Kwik-Fit	Motors,Aircraft	
14	Cont Stationery	Industrials A-D	
15	Cable Wireless (aa)	Electricals	
16	WCRS	Paper,Print,Adv	
17	LWT Hldgs	Cinemas,TV	
18	Brammer	Industrials A-D	
19	Fenner (JH)	Industrials E-K	
20	Newmark (Louis)	Electricals	
21	Attwoods	Building,Roads	
22	Whessoe	Industrials S-Z	
23	Bromsgrove Inds	Industrials A-D	
24	Sears (aa)	Drapery,Stores	
25	Lon Park Hotels	Hotels,Caterers	
26	Scapa	Industrials S-Z	
27	Union	Banks,Discount	
28	Evode	Chemicals,Plas	
29	Mayborn	Industrials L-R	
30	Ault & Wiborg	Paper,Print,Adv	
31	Hestair	Industrials E-K	
32	Baker Perkins	Industrials A-D	
33	Abbott Mead	Paper,Print,Adv	
34	Whitbread 'A' (aa)	Breweries	
35	Erith	Building,Roads	
36	Broken Hill	Industrials A-D	
37	AB Elect	Electricals	
38	CH Ind	Industrials A-D	
39	Guinness (aa)	Breweries	
40	Arlington Secs	Property	
41	Storehouse (aa)	Drapery,Stores	
42	Newarthill	Building,Roads	
43	Lambert Howarth	Shoes,Leather	
44	Unigate (aa)	Foods	
	© Times Newspapers Ltd.	Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Portfolio —Gold—

© Times Newspapers Limited

DAILY DIVIDEND
£8,000
Claims required for
+48 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

1986 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only yld%	Gross Red. yld%
SHORTS (Under Five Years)								
100½	94⅞	Fund	6½%	1985-87	99¾	..	6.5	8.155
101¼	95⅝	Treas	10%	1987	100	..	10.0	8.580
99¾	93¼	Treas	3%	1987	99½	..	3.0	7.277
104½	94¼	Treas	12%	1987	101⅝	..	11.8	9.559
99¾	93	Treas	7¾%	1985-88	98⅞	..	7.8	8.100
104½	93⅝	Exch	10½%	1988	101½	..	10.4	9.418
102¾	93⅛	Treas	C9¾%	1988	100⅝	..	9.7	9.368
95⅝	91¼	Treas	3%	1978-88	95¼	..	3.1	6.617
102¾	92¼	Treas	9½%	1988	100	..	9.6	9.450
107⅝	95½	Treas	11½%	1989	103⅝	..	11.1	9.387
105⅝	93¼	Treas	10½%	1989	102¼	..	10.3	9.352
104½	92⅝	Exch	10%	1989	101¼	..	9.9	9.374
111½	95¼	Exch	10¼%	1989	105½	..	9.7	7.980
103¼	96¼	Exch	11%	1989	103⅝●	..	10.6	9.345
93¾	87⅞	Treas	5%	1986-89	93¾●	..	5.3	7.763
103¾	94⅝	Treas	C9½%	1989	100¼●	+4⅞	9.5	9.385
92½	85⅝	Treas	3%	1989	92½	..	3.2	6.749
114¼	97⅝	Treas	13%	1990	109½	-⅛	11.9	9.209
108¼	95	Exch	11%	1990	104½	..	10.5	6.771
113¼	99½	Exch	12½%	1990	108½●	..	11.5	9.231
89½	81⅝	Treas	3%	1990	89¾	..	3.4	9.245
100⅝	88⅝	Treas	8¼%	1987-90	98⅝	..	8.4	7.073
108¼	94	Treas	10%	1990	102⅝	..	9.8	8.790
85¼	79	Exch	2½%	1990	85⅛	..	2.9	9.313
108⅝	95¾	Treas	C10%	1991	106⅝	-¼	9.4	9.294
112¼	95½	Treas	11¾%	1991	107⅝	-⅛	10.9	8.158
94¼	86	Fund	5¾%	1987-91	91¾●	..	6.3	8.407
110⅝	97½	Exch	11%	1991	106¼	..	10.4	9.335
86½	78½	Treas	3%	1991	85⅝	..	3.5	7.028
FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS								
118⅝	99½	Treas	12¾%	1992	113⅝	-⅛	11.2	9.238
107¼	92¾	Treas	10%	1992	103¼	-¼	9.7	9.154
108⅝	92¼	Treas	C10½%	1992	105¼	-¼	10.0	9.202
117½	100⅛	Exch	12¼%	1992	112½	-⅛	10.9	9.292
123½	108⅛	Exch	13½%	1992	117⅜●	-⅛	11.5	9.336
108	92⅛	Treas	10%	1993	109⅜●	..	9.8	9.201
121¼	98½	Treas	12½%	1993	115	-⅛	10.9	9.317
91½	81¼	Fund	6%	1993	88½●	+¼	6.8	8.348
128	105⅛	Treas	13¾%	1993	121⅝	-⅛	11.3	9.396
133½	104⅛	Treas	14½%	1994	126¼	-⅛	11.6	9.371
122¼	103	Exch	12½%	1994	116⅝	..	10.7	9.383
127¼	106⅝	Exch	13½%	1994	120⅞	..	11.2	9.454
103¾	86¾	Treas	9%	1994	98½	-⅛	9.1	9.134
120	98	Treas	12%	1995	114½	-⅛	10.5	9.378

1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
849	436½	Nat West (aa)	490	492	●-4	29.3	4.9	6.4
127	70	Ottoman	125	-	+1	800	4.8	9.8
394	258	Provident	362	365	●+1	18.6	5.1	12.5
232	220	REA Gp	225	230	..	2.9	1.3	17.0
156½	102	Rothschild (J) Hld	156	156½	..	7.6	4.9	18.3
388	250	Ryl Bk Scot (aa)	328	330	+5	15.4	4.7	8.3
825	581	Schroders	805	825	-5	15.4	1.9	15.6
894	420	Stand Chart (aa)	743	747	-7	46.4	6.2	9.2
102	72	TSB (aa)	77½	78	●+¼	6.1	7.8	..
875	638	Union	865	880	●+5	57.1	6.5	10.1
38¾	21	Wells Fargo	103¾	..	-⅞	.. f	..	..
348	225	Wintrust	340	350	● ..	8.0	2.3	17.0

BREWERIES

1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
408	291	Allied-Lyons (aa)	387	389	..	14.5	3.8	18.2
959	265	Bass (aa)	955	960	+8	24.3	2.5	17.7
79½	22	Belhaven	73	74	+½	1.0	1.4	37.7
145	87	Boddingtons	143	145	..	4.8	3.3	18.2
608	375	Brown (Matthew)	570	575	●-2	20.0b	3.5	20.0
177	52	Buckleys	144	147	..	4.2	2.9	33.8
208	142	Bulmer (H P)	200	204	+1	7.7	3.8	20.7
730	418	Burtonwood Brew	692	698	+1	15.4	2.2	22.8
515	405	Clark (Matthew)	510	517	●+1	12.1	2.4	17.7
234	128	Devenish (J A)	211	217	..	3.9	1.8	29.8
249½	166	Greenall Whitley	244	246	-1	7.9	3.2	14.8
347	185	Greene King	337	339	..	8.4	2.5	19.3
355	216	Guinness (aa)	323	325	●+5	11.8	3.6	12.9
653	473	Hardys & Hansons	648	657	..	26.7	4.1	14.4
91	68	Highland Dist	73	75	+2	3.1	4.2	14.3
192	138	Invergordon Dist	161	163	●+2	6.8	4.2	10.4
208	165	Irish Dist	193	198	..	8.0	3.7	..
129	77	Macdon Thompson	128	130	..	3.3	2.6	18.4
520	353	Morland	508	520	●-4	10.0	1.9	25.0
290	137	SA Breweries	275	285				
279	178	Scot & New (aa)	245	248	-½	10.3	4.2	14.9
597	350	Vaux	587	[illegible]	+1	17.9	3.0	20.3
341½	227	Whitbread 'A' (aa)	338	340	+3	11.5	3.4	15.6
348	248	Do 'B'	345	350		11.5	3.3	16.1
324	210	Whitbread Inv	315	318	-4	11.0	3.5	40.7
432	282	Wolverhampton & D	322	323	+6½	7.0	2.2	18.2
378	185	Young 'A'	363	373	-2	11.4	3.1	25.3

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
248	109	Abbey	243	253	..	..	..	..
268	191	Aberdeen Constr	227	232	..	11.6	5.0	21.3
334	215	Amec	332	338	-1½	18.4	4.9	18.0
52	25	Anglo Utd	48	50	●+1	2.2	4.5	
110	52	Arcliffe	83	93	●-2	2.3	2.6	20.0
282	123	Atwoods	275	277	+4	7.5	2.7	21.1
676	328	BPB Ind (aa)	670	675	..	14.3	2.1	19.8
730	57	Baggeridge Brick	145	155 s	..	2.5	1.7	20.3
89	22	Bailey (Ben) Constr	59	62		0.4	0.7	12.2
199	148	Barratt Devs	190	192	-3	11.6	6.1	20.8
219	121	Bellway	217	220	..	10.7	4.9	11.6
305	134	Berkeley Gp	291	298	-1	3.2	1.1	32.4
99	61	Bett Bros	97	101	+1	4.6	4.6	27.3
14¾	875	Blockleys	14¼	15¼	..	36.6	2.5	29.9
755	625	Blue Circle	747	750	-1	30.0	4.0	10.8
292	233	Breedon&Cloud Hill	280	300	●-2	14.6	5.0	27.5
108	73	Br Dredging	98	102	..	4.3	4.3	18.3
25½	14½	Brown & Jackson	21½	22	-½	..	..	57.7
72	67	Brownlee	68	72	-1	3.8	5.4	35.5
181	80	Bryant	174	176	..	8.1b	3.5	12.1
27	7	Burnett & Hallam	11½	13	-1	..	..	1.4

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

CINEMAS AND TV

DRAPERY AND STORES

ELECTRICALS

FINANCE AND LAND

FOODS

HOTELS AND CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A - D

E - K

L - R

S - Z

INSURANCE

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

OIL & GAS

1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
155	38	[illegible]	162	167	+2	13.6	8.2	7.4
724	350	IC Gas (aa)	720	722	●+13	28.6n	4.0	16.0
52	22	Inoco	43	46		..	..	
19	4½	Jackson	11	12½	+½	..	..	
22	9	KCA Drilling	14	16		●		5.0
273	85	LASMO	217	218	-1½	17.4n	8.0	7.4
250	99½	Do Units	163	300	●-3	62.7	31.8	.
37	15	New London Oil	33	36				
5¾	2½	Offshore	4¾	5½	-½	..	..	..
43	11½	[illegible]	36½	37½				
85	27	Petranol	58	60	f ..	2.1	3.6	5.1
138	45	Petrocon	103	108	..	2.6b	2.5	18.8
45½	23	Premier	43	43½	-¼	.	..	27.7
365	208	Ranger	275	290	-5			
70¼	47⅞	Royal Dutch	68¼	68¾	-¼	226	3.3	
11¼	733	Shell (aa)	11¼	11½		67.4	5.2	14.4
195	123	[illegible]	152	157	+2	8.6	4.4	30.1
73	18	Sovereign	53	55	-1	..		3.5
27	11	TR Energy	25½	26½	..	..	..	25.5
22	6½	Target	15	18				
150	41	Tricentrol	85	87	-1½	7.1	8.2	3.8
170	80	Triton Europe	145	150	-7			22.0
264	99	Ultramar	202	205	+14	7.5	3.7	6.3
88	29½	Woodside	80	84	-2		..	

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
158	95	Dalgety?	133	138	..	10.0	7.4	12.0
97	75	Finlay (James)	80	83	+1	5.9	7.2	
517	326	Harrison Crosfield	476	478	+7	28.6	6.0	24.1
664	330	Inchcape	580	583	-1	25.9	4.5	48.1
37	32½	Jacks (Wm)	35½	37½	.	1.7b	4.7	13.6
301	198	Lonrho (aa)	275	277	●-3	17.1	6.2	11.8
88	45	Ocean Wilson	70	75	..	3.6	4.9	12.8
343	225	Paterson Zoch	340	345	+3	9.3	2.7	8.8
343	215	Do 'A'	340	345	+1	9.3	2.7	8.8
235	125	Polly Peck	226	229	●+13	9.3	4.1	48.7
87	50	Sime Darby	71	75	-1			
650	545	Steel Bros	627	667	.	22.9n	3.5	18.0
274	121	Tozer Kemsley	139	141	-3	0.7	0.5	14.1
350	156	Yule Catto	334	336	-5	12.1	3.6	10.9

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
517	231	Abbott Mead	330	340	+5	5.0	1.5	22.7
260	111	Addison Cons	154	157	● ..	3.0	1.9	
308½	228	Assoc Paper	305	310		10.0	3.2	17.2
130	37	Ault & Wiborg	122½	127½	+5	.		30.1
347	201	BPCC (aa)	343	347	+14	20.0	5.8	28.2
359	96	Barker (Charles)	148	153	●+3	4.3	2.8	
238	166	Bemrose	237	239	●+1½	11.4b	4.8	96.9
559	274	Boase Massimi	335	345	●-2	6.8b	2.0	19.8
414	160	Brunning	195	200	+2	7.0	3.5	49.8
257	188	Bunzl (aa)	222	223	-5½	5.7	2.6	23.0
11¼	620	Carlton Comm	11¼	11½	..	11.4	1.0	26.8
54	45	Catalyst	43	47	..			
233½	208	Chapman	230	235	..	12.1	5.2	23.9
430	124	Cropper (James)	415	425	-5	4.3	1.0	9.5
425	277	DRG	413	415	-2	12.3	3.0	17.7
379	134	Davidson Pearce	165½	170½	+7	3.9	2.3	17.2
375	330	Delyn Packaging	340	350	.	4.3	1.2	31.5
10½	650	Eucalyptus Pulp	10	10¼	..	7.1	0.7	17.5
318	170	Ferguson Ind	311	313	+3	12.9	4.1	19.5
425	280	Fitch Design	355	375	..	9.0	2.5	19.6
305	85	Geers Gross	87	92	..	4.3	4.8	24.5
327	173	Gold Greenlees	275	285	+5	4.4	1.6	27.5
142	137	Good Relations	137	142	..	7.0	5.0	23.8

PROPERTY

SHIPPING

SHOES AND LEATHER

TEXTILES

1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
269	153	Leeds	260	267	.	8.9	3.4	13.0
200	66	Lister	175	185	+8	1.4	0.8	15.8
138	72	Lyles (S)	110	113	-1	8.2	7.3	12.6
158	84	Mackay (Hugh)	150	155	.	6.7	4.4	22.2
29½	15	Munton	19½	20½	-½	.	..	15.7
156	116	Parkland 'A'	138	140	..	6.9	5.0	17.1
127	93½	Readicut	59½	59½	+1	2.5	4.2	13.7
143	109	SEET	140	143	..	7.6	5.4	8.1
143	84	Sekers	131	134	● ..	3.6	2.7	10.7
177	128	Sirdar	143	146	-1	7.4	5.1	10.6
100	48	Smallshaw (R)	94	97	-2	3.9	4.1	8.7
43½	14	Stoddard 'A'	38¼	39¾	.			.
188	132	Textured Jersey	151½	154½	●-1	8.6	5.6	8.7
410	28	Tomkinsons	390	400	+2	5.7	1.4	19.0
138	87	Toocal	128	129	+1½	5.6	4.6	13.3
350	220	Yorklyde	240	260	..	10.0	4.0	7.8

TOBACCOS

1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
568	444	BAT (aa)	513	515	+4	18.4	3.5	13.4
168	123	Carreras	130	135	.	..	..	..
237	135	Rothmans 'B'	233	235	-1	10.0	4.3	8.3

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

هكذا من الإصل

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0345 717373 (Linkline)				
Gilt & Fixed	111.8	118.3●	-0.6	10.14
High Inc Equity	115.9	123.2	+0.2	4.22
Worldwide Bond	192.5	204.7●	+1.4	4.73
American Growth	172.3	183.2	+0.3	0.77
Asian Pacific	68.4	70.6	-0.4	1.60
Assets & Earns	134.8	143.3	+0.1	2.00
Capital Reserve	69.8	70.2●	+0.2	1.44
Comm & Energy	126.9	134.9●	+1.0	0.85
European Capital	92.9	98.8	+1.0	1.29
General	160.8	171.0	+0.1	2.48
Japan	80.7	85.8	+0.8	..
UK Growth Inc	134.5	143.0	+0.5	1.10
Do Accum	194.3	206.7	+0.8	0.78
US Emerging Co's	63.1	67.1	+0.5	0.09
Equitas Progress	256.0	272.3	+0.3	2.85
MastersAcc	75.3	80.0	+0.4	2.05
American Inc	51.8	55.1●	+0.2	4.76
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre Swindon SN1 1EL 0793 610366 & 0793 28291				
UK Special Sits	271.4	287.7●	+0.7	2.78
Growth & Income	158.5	168.0	+0.4	3.05
Capital Trust	267.9	284.0	+0.7	2.48
Balanced	430.4	456.2	+0.7	2.91
Accum Trust	855.8	894.9	+0.8	2.81
American Income	33.1	35.2●	+0.2	4.23
High Income Tst	294.5	312.2●	+0.8	4.17
Equity Income	167.8	177.9	+0.3	4.20
High Yield	171.4	181.7	+0.5	4.79
Govt Secs Trust	30.1	31.3	-0.2	7.80
International	101.0	107.6●	+0.8	0.98
Japan Fund	127.3	135.8	+1.2	0.01
Pacific Trust	207.6	221.1	+1.8	0.07
Amer Spcl Sits	72.0	76.7c	-0.3	1.24
Secs Of Amer Tst	227.7	242.5	+1.8	0.47
Aid Asset Value	277.5	294.2	+0.2	2.95
Conv & Gilt Trust	39.7	42.1	-0.1	5.61
Smaller Co's	159.7	169.3	+0.8	2.58
2nd Smaller Co's	200.7	212.7●	-0.3	1.88
Recovery Trust	101.2	107.3	..	2.41
ARBUTHNOT SECURITIES See Royal Trust Fund Management Ltd				
BAILLIE GIFFORD 3, Glenfinlas St, Edinburgh EH3 6YY 031-225 2581 (Dealers:031-226 6066)				
Intl Ex (22)	474.2	494.3	..	0.64
Japan Ex (43)	452.1	471.4●	..	0.20
UK Ex (31)	269.0	285.1	..	1.28
P'sal Pens Intl	570.6	600.6	..	..
P'sal Pens UK	223.1	234.9	..	..
BG America	181.7	193.4	+1.6	0.00
BG Energy	183.6	195.4	-0.2	1.73
BG Income Growth	245.9	261.6●	+1.5	4.26
BG Japan	200.5	213.3	+1.8	0.00
BG Technology	195.4	207.9	+3.4	0.00
BALTIC TRUST MANAGERS 20, Chiswell Street, London EC1 01-374 6801				
American	52.5	55.9	+0.2	1.66
Australian	24.1	25.7	+0.1	1.57
Japan & General	124.1	132.1	+0.9	0.05
High Income	53.6	57.1	-0.2	5.28
International Trust	88.8	94.5	+0.2	0.85
Income Gth Tst	58.9	62.7	..	3.19
Gilts & Fixed Int	21.5	22.9c	+0.3	9.59
Global Markets	38.5	41.0c	+0.3	1.31
Special Situations	55.8	59.4	..	1.38
BARCLAYS UNICORN Unicorn House, 252, Romford Rd E7 01-534 5544				
America	97.2	102.8	+0.3	1.08
Aust Accum	214.3	226.7	+2.7	0.54
Do Income	151.1	159.8	+1.9	0.54
Capital	83.7	88.5●	+0.1	2.51
Exempt Trust	520.8	551.1	+4.6	3.57
Extra Income	91.0	96.2	+0.1	4.84
Financial	267.2	282.7	+1.0	2.65
500	326.8	345.8●	+0.8	2.58
General	168.1	177.8c	+0.4	2.72
Gilt & Fixed Inc	54.8	57.8●	+0.2	9.51
Japan & Gen Inc	188.7	199.6●	+2.0	0.00
Do Acc	190.8	201.8●	+1.9	0.00

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Intl Inc (2)	148.4	154.8●	..	0.98
Do Accum (2)	197.9	208.5●	..	0.98
Smaller Inc (5)	81.2	85.7●	..	1.51
Do Accum	87.2	92.1●	..	1.51
CS FUND MANAGERS 125, High Holborn, London WC1V 6PY 01-242 1148				
CS Japan Fund	89.4	95.1	-0.7	0.53
CANNON FUND MANAGERS 1, Olympic Way, Wembley, HA9 0NB 01-902 8876				
Growth	340.1	361.8	-0.5	2.84
Income	396.0	421.3	+1.7	4.02
Far East	243.5	259.1	-1.1	0.24
North American	169.8	180.7	-0.9	0.80
Global	55.1	58.3●	..	0.78
European	54.5	57.7	-0.4	1.30
Japan	59.1	62.9	-0.7	0.50
CAPEL (JAMES) MANAGEMENT PO Box 551 Bevis Marks London EC3 7JQ 01-621 0011				
Capital	419.5	448.3	+0.1	1.56
Income	345.7	367.8	+0.6	4.03
North American	325.5	346.3	+1.6	0.72
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ 01-588 1815				
Inv Fund	478.75		..	3.95
Fixed Int	143.35		..	9.98
Deposit	100.0		..	10.80
CHASE MANHATTAN FUND MANAGERS 72/73 Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5DP 01-606 6622				
S & C Special Sits	62.2	66.8	..	0.60
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ 01-588 1815				
Income	443.48		..	4.40
Accum	£13.2437		..	..
Deposit	100.0		..	10.85
CLERICAL MEDICAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0800 373393				
Amer Growth	27.8	29.5	+0.1	1.80
Equity High Income	54.7	57.9●	+0.3	3.80
European Growth	30.4	32.2	+0.2	2.00
General Equity	49.4	52.3	+0.1	2.10
Gilt & Fixed Int Gth	31.8	33.0	..	3.10
Gilt & Fixed Inc	25.5	26.9●	-0.1	9.50
Intl Inc Tst	25.3	26.8	..	5.00
Japan Growth	36.8	38.7	+0.5	0.90
Pedigree Gth	30.5	32.3	+0.1	2.50
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS St Helen's, 1, Undershaft, London EC3P 3DQ 01-283 7500 Dealing 01-686 9818				
UK & Gen Inc	54.9	58.8	..	2.88
Do Accum	54.9	58.8	..	2.88
Income Inc	54.8	58.7	+0.2	4.19
Do Accum	54.8	58.7	+0.2	4.19
Worldwide Inc	52.3	56.0	+0.1	1.73
Do Accum	52.3	56.0	+0.1	1.73
COUNTY UT MANAGERS LTD 161, Cheapside, London EC2V 6EU 01-726 1999				
Euro Gth S Sit	74.2	78.5	+0.7	0.68
Extra Income	207.3	219.4	-0.6	4.01
Financial	199.9	211.6●	+0.1	2.27
Sth East Asia Grth	77.7	82.3●	-0.7	1.94
Growth Investment	350.0	370.4	-0.1	2.07
Income & Growth	50.1	53.0●	+0.1	3.72
Japanese Growth	218.1	230.8	-0.7	0.54
Nth Amer Growth	116.6	123.3	+0.9	0.89
Intl Recovery	130.5	134.0	-1.1	1.51
Smaller Co's	282.3	298.8●	+0.4	1.24
Global Inc Tst	62.4	66.1●	+0.4	6.62
Special Sits Acc	350.8	371.3	+0.1	1.23

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Far Eastern Fund	76.8	81.8	..	0.00
Overseas Income	75.3	80.2	+0.3	3.35
Fixed Interest	80.7	84.8	+0.4	10.05
Natural Res Fund	61.2	65.2	+0.9	2.65
European Income	82.3	87.6●	-1.1	2.87
Financials Fund	54.0	57.5	+0.2	2.61
FS INVESTMENT MANAGERS 190, West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA 041-332 3132				
Balanced Gth Inc	58.0	61.7	..	1.40
Do Accum	59.2	63.0	..	..
Income Gth Inc	51.3	54.6	..	5.30
Do Accum	55.0	58.5	..	..
Smnca Co's Inc	65.4	69.6	..	1.00
Do Accum	66.6	70.8	..	..
Higher Inc	28.7	30.5	..	7.00
Do acc	28.7	30.5	..	..
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD River Walk, Tonbridge, TN9 1DY 0732 361144				
American	120.8	128.6	-0.5	0.58
Amer Equity Income	35.1	37.4	-0.1	3.83
Amer Special Sits	57.8	61.5	+0.3	0.01
Australia	37.0	39.2	-0.5	2.60
European	48.9	51.8	-0.8	..
European Inc	23.8	25.2	..	4.00
Global Conv	23.8	25.0	..	5.50
Far East Inc	37.6	40.1	..	3.87
Gilt & Fixed Int	31.1		+0.2	9.95
Growth & Income	115.9	123.4	+0.4	3.90
Japan Special Sits	48.9	52.2●	+0.6	..
Japan	149.6	159.9	-0.3	..
Managed Int	153.2	163.0●	-0.7	0.21
Max Income Equity	101.9	108.5●	+0.7	4.30
Professional Gth	40.7	43.6	-0.2	1.93
South East Asia	47.0	50.0	..	0.01
Special Sits	219.3	233.3	-0.2	0.07
FLEMING (ROBERT) 8, Crosby Sq, London EC3A 6AN 01-638 5858				
American Exempt	£398.5	405.5c	..	1.03
Japan Exempt	£484.7	494.2	..	0.80
Am Property Tst	$10000.0		..	5.00
Property Trust	£2023.0		..	5.80
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 3, London Wall Bldgs, London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ 01-628 5181				
Amer & Gen Inc	227.7	240.9	+1.5	..
Do Accum	232.6	246.1	+1.5	..
Amer Turnarnd Inc	227.3	240.5	+1.1	1.16
Do Accum	235.8	249.5	+1.2	1.16
Capital Tst Inc	263.9	279.2c	+0.4	1.79
Do Accum	321.5	340.2c	+0.5	1.79
Conv & Gilt Inc	101.4	107.3	-0.2	4.72
Do Accum	138.0	146.0	-0.3	4.72
European Inc	67.8	71.7	+1.3	0.81
Do Accum	67.8	71.7	+1.3	0.81
Extra Inc Tst Inc	208.2	218.1●	..	3.67
Do Accum	226.4	239.5●	..	3.67
Financial Accum	54.3	57.4	+0.4	1.00
Do Inc	54.3	57.4	+0.4	1.00
Income Trust	150.7	159.4	+0.1	3.37
Do Accum	161.3	170.6	+0.1	3.31
Int Growth Fd Inc	178.0	188.3	+1.2	..
Do Accum	197.7	209.2	+1.4	..
Japan & Gen Inc	99.6	105.3●	+0.8	..
Do Accum	100.6	106.4●	+0.8	..
Monthly Income Fd	107.9	114.1●	+0.3	3.95
Recovery	185.0	195.7●	+0.4	1.00
Do Accum	201.8	213.5●	+0.2	1.00
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Pixham End, Dorking, Surrey 0306 885055				
FP Equity Dist	237.2	251.8	-0.3	2.33
Do Accum	399.6	424.2	-0.5	2.33
FP Fixed Int Dist	117.9	125.4	+1.4	5.73
Do Accum	139.3	148.1	+1.7	5.73
Stewardship Dist	212.5	226.2	+1.3	1.39
Do Accum	221.2	234.8	+1.6	1.39
FP North American	133.2	141.2●	-0.3	1.29
FP Pacific Basin	186.4	197.6●	+1.8	0.25
GT UNIT MANAGERS 8th Floor, 8, Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ 01-283 2575 Dealing 01-626 9431				

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 2 Honey La EC2 8BT 01-606 9085/6				
Sht Dtd Gilt Fund	72.0	73.1	-0.1	0.00
US Govt Bond Fd	€52.2	62.5	+0.1	..
Challenger	50.2	50.5	+0.2	2.00
WINDSOR TRUST MANAGERS LTD Windsor House, 83, Kingsway, London WC2B 6SD 01-405 8331				
Conv & Equity	60.8	64.7	+0.1	6.05
Income	69.7	74.2	+0.3	3.92
Growth	71.5	76.2	-0.6	1.61

● Ex dividend. c Cum dividend. k Cum stock split. s Ex stock split. m Cum all (any two or more of above). a Ex all (any two or more of above). Dealing or valuation days: (1) Monday. (2) Tuesday. (3) Wednesday. (4) Thursday. (5) Friday. (20) 25th of month. (21) 2nd Thursday of month. (22) 1st and 3rd Wednesday of month. (23) 20th of month. (24) 3rd Tuesday of month. (25) 1st and 3rd Thursday of month. (26) 4th Tuesday of month. (27) 1st Wednesday of month. (28) Last Thursday of month. (29) 3rd working day of month. (30) 16th of month. (31) 1st working day of month. (32) 20th of month. (33) 1st day of February, May, August, November. (34) Last working day of month. (35) 15th of month. (36) 14th of month. (37) 21st of month. (38) 3rd Wednesday of month. (39) 2nd Wednesday of month. (40) Valued monthly. (41) Last Thursday of Stock Exchange account. (42) Last day of month. (43) 2nd and 4th Wednesday of month. (44) Quarterly. (45) 6th of month (46) 2nd Tuesday of month.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
170	80	Secs Tst of Scotland	109	110½		4.3b	3.9	40.4
102½	74	Smaller Cos	101	102½	-½	2.0	2.0	71.3
119	110	TR Australia	116	118		3.3	2.8	34.9
74	59½	TR City Of Lon Dfd	72½	73½	+½	3.1	4.2	34.3
224	108	TR Ind & Gen	124	125		2.9b	2.3	53.9
225	109	TR Natural Res	152	155		5.9	3.8	33.0
112	97	TR North America	105	105	+1	2.8b	2.4	54.3
215	144	TR Pacific Basin	210	212	-1	1.4	0.7	..
85	45	TR Property	83	85		1.9	2.3	55.0
139	112	TR Tech	136	138		2.6	1.9	64.6
205	76	TR Trustees	111	113		3.1	2.8	42.8

1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
		Drayton Cons	443	444	-1½	15.4	3.5	47.3
445	348	Drayton Far East	205½	203½ ●	+1	1.7	0.8	..
213	185	Drayton Japan	689	693 ●	..	1.5	0.2	..
702	631	Dundee Lon	265	268	+1	8.6	3.2	43.8
267	205	Edin Amer Asset	117	118 ●	-½	0.9	0.8	..
127	107	Edinburgh	182	183	+½	5.3b	2.9	53.7
182½	154½	Electric Gen	483	488	+1	6.8	1.4	81.4
499	337	English Int	201½	204½	+3	5.5	2.7	56.7
223	165	English Scot	121	123 ●	..	2.2	1.8	73.5
124	98	Estate	77	79		1.3	1.7	78.5
160	63	F & C Alliance	146	149		2.7	1.8	77.9
249	117	F & C Pacific	255	257		2.1	0.8	98.8
250	161	First Charlotte	12½	13½	..	0.1	0.8	..
14½	8½	First Scot Amer	412	416 ●	..	17.1	4.1	33.4
420	316	Fleming American	628	632 ●	-1	8.9	1.4	95.8
636	495	Fleming Claver	229	232 ●	-1	8.1	3.5	44.4
232	159	Fleming Enterprise	385	390 ●	+2	12.9	3.3	43.5
390	306	Fleming Far East	151	153	-1	1.4	0.9	..
156	103	Fleming Fledgling	172	175 ●	..	3.6	2.1	67.4
175	127	Fleming Japan	157	158	..	1.0	0.5	73.8
157	56	Fleming Mercantile	190	193	..	5.4	2.8	51.1
196	138	Fleming Overseas	183	185 ●	..	2.9b	1.6	91.1
186	134	Fleming Tech	179	182	..	0.9	0.5	..
185	140	Fleming Universal	185	188	..	2.1b	1.3	81.5
398	128	For Col	122½	123½ ●	..	2.4	2.0	71.5
124¼	82½	GBC Capital	112	114	-1			
120	88	GT Japan	247	250 ●	-1	2.8	0.8	..
251	155	General Cons	374	378 ●	..	18.6	4.9	28.4
378	295	General Fund	240	244 ●	..	3.1	1.3	..
244	149	Glasgow Stock	174	186		3.3	1.8	73.6
181	126	Globe (a)	150	150½	-¼	5.3	3.5	38.8
182	137	Govett Atlantic	158	161		4.3b	2.7	48.2
173	128	Govett Oriental	267	268	-½	3.3	1.2	..

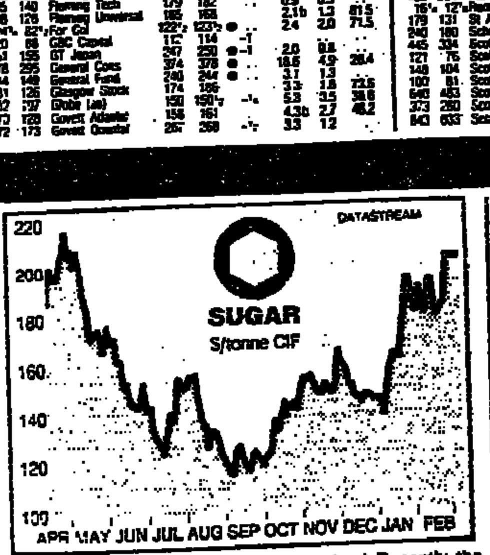
1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
154	111	Mercantile						
30½	21½	Merrill Lynch	25½	..				
247	167	Monks	243	245		3.7b	1.5	92.1
193	147	Murray Income	191	193		8.6b	4.5	35.6
194	154	Murray Intl	187	190 ●		7.1	3.8	36.8
399	270	Murray Small	322	327	+2	4.1a	1.1	..
435	217½	Murray Venture	238	240	-2	7.1b	3.0	54.2
570	427	New Court	565	570	-1	22.5	4.0	33.5
267	49	New Darien Oil	64	66		10.0	15.4	71.4
71½	56	Nthong Inc 83	70½	72		4.8b	6.7	20.2
271	225	New Tokyo	243	245 ●	-1	0.3	0.1	..
408	305	Nth Atlantic Sec	400	404	-4	4.9	1.2	..
68	20	Nth Sea Assets	33	36	+1			10.4
451	332	Nthn Amer	440	444		7.7	1.7	..
144	67	Pacific Assets	138	141	+1	1.1	0.8	..
57	26	Do Wrnts	93	98				
52½	35	Personal Assets	50½	52	+½	8.5	1.0	..
491	383	Raeburn	488	493		19.3	3.9	39.5
218	157	River & Merc	213	215 ●	-2	10.0b	4.7	35.6
326	241	River Plate	317	322 ●	-2	12.9	4.0	34.8
313	231	Robeco	302	..	+2			
275	206	Rolinco	285	..	-2			
463	294	Romney	405	410 ●	+2	7.1	1.7	..
16¼	12½	Rorento	15½	..	+½			
179	131	St Andrew Inv Tst	175	178 ●	-1	5.0	2.8	47.2
240	180	Schroder Global	236	240				
445	334	Scottish	442	443	-2½	9.4	2.1	67.8
127	76	Scot American	95	97 ●	..	2.9b	3.0	54.9
148	104	Scot Eastern	147	148	+½	3.1	2.1	64.7
100	81	Scot Merc 'A'	89	93		6.4	7.0	..
640	453	Scot Mtge	633	638		12.6	2.0	68.6
373	280	Scot Ntl	355	358	+1	7.6	2.1	61.6
843	633	Second Alliance	838	843 ●	.	27.9	3.3	41.4

1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
388	347	US Debenture	380	385 ●	+2			
49	38	Value Inc Tst	47	49		1.8	3.8	
54	38	Viking Resources	45½	47	-½	2.9	6.2	22.9
76	52	Westpool	73	75		2.3	3.1	36.5
207	85	Witan	132	133½		2.6b	2.0	75.6

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1986 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
50¾	38½	American Express	49¼	..	-¼			
140	65	Argyle	138½	141½ ●	+12	2.9	2.1	41.8
40	25	Boustead	34	36	-1	..	..	94.5
176	142	Britannia Arrow	170	171	+1½	6.0	3.5	19.9
32	18	Daily Mail	28½	29½	..	85.7	3.0	17.5
32	17½	Do 'A'	26½	27½	..	85.7	3.2	18.3
183½	153	Electra	182	184	..	5.9	3.2	42.3
179	91	Eng Trust	177	180	..	4.3	2.4	19.6
332½	204½	Exco	332	333	+½	6.0	1.8	21.4
133	88	Exploration	130	135 ●	+3	3.3	2.5	17.5
938	600	Framlington	930	945 ●	..	15.7	1.7	24.5
146	108	Frost Gp	143	148	..	7.1	4.9	15.7
243	183	GT Management	233	238	-2	4.3	1.8	17.8
200	75	Goode Durrant	182	187 ●	+1	3.6	1.9	28.2
12½	450	Henderson Admin	12¼	12¾	..	22.1	1.7	25.1
236	133	ICH	208	212	..	12.9	6.1	9.3
515	330	MIM	513	517	+2	25.8	4.9	10.9
11¼	220	M & G	265	268	+1	7.5	2.8	19.7
408	252	Mercantile House	330	335	.	20.0	6.0	8.3
149	124½	Pacific Inv Tst	148	150	.	0.6	0.4	
72	27½	Do Warrants	70	72				
196	148	Smith New Court	166	169	+1	10.0	6.0	8.3

COMMODITIES



Sugar action can best be described as mixed. Recently, the principal focus has been on whether operators would tender (in protest) up to one million tonnes into EEC intervention. Longer term, first estimates are for a slight fall in European production. Comment by GNI.

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE
Supplied via Commodity Market Services Ltd

HEAVY FUEL OIL

Apr 90.0-91.0
May 89.25-89.5
Jun 94.00
Vol: 15

GAS OIL

Apr 148.75-48.50
May 146.75-56.50
Jun 144.00-43.75
Jul 145.00-44.00
Aug 149.50-44.00
Sep 150.00-42.00
Oct 150.00-42.00
Nov 150.00-42.00
Dec 150.00-42.00
Vol: 4256

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

SUGAR (From C. Czarnikow)
FOB
May 181.6-81.8
Aug 183.8-84.0
Oct 185.4-85.6
Dec 189.0-90.0
Mar 192.0-92.6
May 194.0-96.0
Vol: 1816

COCOA
Mar 1275-74
May 1307-05
Jul 1336-35
Sep 1357-56
Dec 1381-80
Mar 1405-04
May 1425-24
Vol: 2753

COFFEE
Mar 1300-297
May 1320-318
Jul 1337-335
Sep 1359-355
Nov 1380-375
Jan 1406-400
Mar 1430-410
Vol: 4062

SOYABEAN
Apr 124.0-21.0
Jun 113.0-12.0
Aug 109.5-09.2
Oct 110.1-09.8
Dec 112.5-11.8
Feb 116.0-14.5
Apr 118.0-15.5
Vol: 113

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices
Official Turnover figures
Price in £ per metric tonne
Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolf & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER GRADE A
Cash 913.00-914.00
Three Months . 900.00-901.00
Vol 8000
Tone .... Barely Steady

STANDARD CATHODES
Cash 856.00-860.00
Three Months . 873.00-877.00
Vol .... Nil
Tone .... Quiet

LEAD
Cash 302.00-303.00
Three Months . 296.00-297.00
Vol 1900
Tone .... Steady

ZINC HIGH GRADE
Cash 458.00-459.00
Three Months . 454.00-455.00
Vol 2025
Tone .... Steady Quiet

SILVER LARGE
Cash 351.00-353.00
Three Months . 360.00-362.00
Vol .... Nil
Tone .... Idle

SILVER SMALL
Cash 351.00-353.00
Three Months . 360.00-362.00
Vol .... Nil
Tone .... Idle

ALUMINIUM
Cash 853.00-854.00
Three Months . 813.50-814.00
Vol 2150
Tone .... Steady

NICKEL
Cash 2375-2395
Three Months 2380-2390
Vol .... Nil
Tone .... Quiet

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 12

GB: Cattle, 96.02p per kg lw (+0.49)
GB: Sheep 189.92p per kg* (+10.54)
GB: Pigs, 82.25p per kg lw (+2.15)
* est. dead carcase weight

England and Wales:
Cattle nos. down 2.5 %, ave. price, 96.82p(+0.73)
Sheep nos. down 10.2 %, ave. price, 191.22p(+10.69)
Pig nos. down 0.1 %, ave. price, 82.52p(+2.38)

Scotland:
Cattle nos. up 6.3 %, ave. price, 93.06p(-0.22)
Sheep nos. up 5.1 %, ave. price, 186.46p(+10.64)
Pig nos. up 2.0 %, ave. price, 76.73p(-1.72)

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig Contract p. per kilo

Month	Open	Close
Apr	98.30	98.00
Jun	96.50	97.90
Aug	95.50	95.40
Oct	98.50	99.50

Vol: 34

Pig Meat vol: 0

Live Cattle Contract
p. per kilo

Month	Open	Close
Apr	97.50	97.50
Jun	98.50	99.00
Aug	96.80	93.00
Oct	96.80	93.00

Vol: 6

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES
£ per tonne

Month	Wheat Close	Barley Close
Mar	117.65	112.10
May	118.15	113.35
Jul	120.20	......
Sep	99.80	99.30
Nov	101.85	101.50
Jan	104.70	103.75

Vol: Wheat 440
Barley 87

LONDON POTATO FUTURES
£ per tonne

Month	Open	Close
Apr	170.00	168.80
May	189.50	190.10
Nov	91.00	91.40
Feb	98.80	99.00

Vol: 656

BIFFEX
G.N.I. Freight Futures Ltd Dry Cargo Report ($10 per point)

	High/Low	Close
Apr 87	938.0-924.0	938.0
Jul 87	802.0-795.0	799.0
Oct 87	879.0-864.0	879.0
Jan 88	875.0-875.0	875.0

Vol: 566 lots Open Inst: 2248
Spot market commentary:
Dry cargo index:
883.5 up 10.5 on 11/3/87

هكذا من الإهمال

Government blocks bid by Scholey to cut steel

By Colin Narbrough

Mr Robert Scholey, the chairman of British Steel Corporation, has offered to shed three million tonnes of steelmaking capacity in Britain as part of a European producers' plan for self-imposed cuts.

But his offer, according to steel industry sources, made privately earlier this year, would have been seen in the industry as a death sentence for BSC's Scottish steelworks at Ravenscraig and threatened to embarrass the Government.

He was forced to withdraw it last month.

Senior ministers are understood to have intervened to change Mr Scholey's mind, since the proposed cuts would have made nonsense of a Government pledge to keep all five BSC integrated steel plants until August next year at least.

Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, met Mr Scholey on February 26 to discuss BSC's Scottish operations, but no details were disclosed.

The Department of Trade and Industry said yesterday that the Government had not altered its commitment, nor had any decisions been made about the future of the five mills after next year.

EEC steel ministers meet in Brussels next Thursday to consider European Commission plans to liberalize the steel industry. It was to head off commission moves that community steelmakers, under their trade association Eurofer, came up with a plan for self-imposed cuts.

A survey conducted in January for Eurofer by Peat Marwick, the accountants, showed producers ready to shed more than nine million tonnes of capacity. This offer contained Mr Scholey's three million tonnes of hot strip.

Robert Scholey: no secret of his desire to close plant

The amount of this product to be cut, and that they were certain to be at the oldest plants, pointed directly to Ravenscraig, or Llanwern in Wales.

But Mr Scholey has made no secret of his desire to close the Scottish plant as part of his streamlining plans in preparation for privatization. The Government has said it will privatize BSC in the next Parliament.

A second Peat Marwick poll, conducted last month, no longer contained any BSC offer of cuts. But it showed Eurofer members ready to close almost 15 million tonnes of capacity. Brussels, which wants European capacity reduced by more than 27 million tonnes by 1990, was unimpressed.

Unless Eurofer can offer something better, the Commission plans to end the present production quota system next year and other measures which shelter the industry from the full effects of free competition.

European steelmakers are hoping to persuade their governments to put off plans to end quotas until 1990.

Mr Scholey is president of Eurofer and took the lead in offering cuts in January, encouraging others to follow suit. His subsequent withdrawal is not believed to have pleased his Eurofer partners.

● West German steel manufacturers expect to cut at least 25,000 jobs due to a crisis blamed on weak prices, a strong Deutschmark and foreign competition.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
Feb 2	Feb 13	May 7	May 18
Feb 16	Feb 27	May 28	Jun 8
Mar 2	Mar 13	Jun 11	Jun 22

Call options were taken out on: 12/3/87 Berkeley & Hay Hill, Property Trust, Kwik-Fit, Astras, Lilley, Central & Sherwood, Ryan Hotels, Common Bros., Control Securities, Premier Cons., Hyman, Norfolk Capital, United Guarantee, TV-AM, Regalian, Excalibur, Sears, Dares Estates, Stone Intl., Greenwich Res., Blackwood Hodge, Brent Walker, Spong, GRA, Burndene, Mitchell Cotts, Polly Peck, BSG, Amstrad, Aran Energy, Rothmans, Pentland, Wellcome, Taylor Woodrow, Ultramar, Boots, Pepe, Alphameric, Readicut, Next, Rotaprint, Bensons Crisps, Queens Moat.

Puts: Thames Mining, Ultramar, Conroy Pets., Wellcome.

Puts & Calls: Rotaprint, Hawley Group.

THIRD MARKET

1986 High	1986 Low	Company	Price Bid	Price Offer	Change
232	180	Abelscot Group	225	235	n/c
50	10	Aberdeen Am Petrol	31	34	n/c
120	113	Allied Insurnce	107	117	n/c
54	36	Catalyst Commercial	43	47	n/c
68	24	Corton Beach	62	67	n/c
63	10	Eglinton Oil Ireland	43	45	−1
41	8	Do. Warrants	26	28	−2
24	17	*Publishing Holdings*	22	24	+1
55	46	Theme Holdings	47	50	+1
133	118	Unit Group	116	122	n/c

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

	Market rates day's range March 12	Market rates close March 12	1 month	3 months
N York	1.5845-1.5955	1.5870-1.5880	0.52-0.49prem	1.36-1.31prem
Montreal	2.0868-2.1026	2.0940-2.0970	0.63-0.52prem	1.47-1.31prem
Ams'dam	3.3209-3.3567	3.3353-3.3404	1½-1¼prem	3⅞-3⅝prem
Brussels	60.90-61.56	61.10-61.22	17-13prem	41-33prem
C'phgen	11.0598-11.1808	11.1019-11.1247	¼-1⅛dis	3¾-4⅝dis
Dublin	1.0971-1.1130	1.1031-1.1041	30-37dis	88-107dis
Frankfurt	2.9424-2.9719	2.9518-2.9581	1⅝-1½prem	4⅝-4¼prem
Lisbon	225.32-227.39	225.87-226.61	69-153dis	236-402dis
Madrid	206.06-207.78	206.63-206.92	55-79dis	176-220dis
Milan	2089.16-2112.98	2096.43-2102.51	2-parprem	1prem-4dis
Oslo	11.0408-11.1386	11.0614-11.0842	4-4¾dis	11⅞-12⅝dis
Paris	9.7875-9.8809	9.8172-9.8345	2⅜-1⅞prem	5⅝-4⅞prem
St'khlm	10.2498-10.3243	10.2600-10.2756	⅝-1⅛dis	5⅝-2⅞prem
Tokyo	243.06-244.82	243.60-244.00	1⅝-1½prem	3⅞-3⅝prem
Vienna	20.67-20.90	20.71-20.73	11¼-9¾prem	28¼-25⅝prem
Zurich	2.4607-2.4898	2.4741-2.4789	1⅝-1⅜prem	3⅞-3⅝prem

Sterling index compared with 1975 was down at 72.3 (day's range 72.1-72.7).

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	2.4348-2.4459
Australia dollar	2.2853-2.2985
Bahrain dinar	0.5950-0.6020
Brazil cruzado*	32.1554-32.3361
Cyprus pound	0.7690-0.7790
Finland marka	7.2040-7.2440
Greece drachma	216.00-218.00
Hong Kong dollar	12.3630-12.3672
India rupee	20.35-20.55
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4400-0.4440
Malaysia dollar	4.0151-4.0193
Mexico peso	1700.0-1750.0
New Zealand dollar	2.7701-2.7768
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9550-5.9950
Singapore dollar	3.4003-3.4041
S Africa rand (fin)	5.8740-5.9887
S Africa rand (com)	3.3183-3.3309
U A E dirham	5.8300-5.8700

*Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.4355-1.4385
Singapore	2.1468-2.1478
Malaysia	2.5325-2.5335
Australia	0.6898-0.6903
Canada	1.3175-1.3180
Sweden	6.4650-6.4700
Norway	6.9690-6.9740
Denmark	6.9825-6.9875
West Germany	1.8575-1.8585
Switzerland	1.5550-1.5560
Netherlands	2.0960-2.0995
France	6.1800-6.1850
Japan	153.45-153.55
Italy	1319.5-1320.5
Belgium(Comm)	38.46-38.49
Hong Kong	7.8025-7.8030
Portugal	142.20-142.70
Spain	130.20-130.30
Austria	13.08-13.10

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Extel.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Three Month Sterling	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Mar 87	90.10	90.15	90.08	90.08	502
Jun 87	90.75	90.75	90.65	90.68	4375
Sep 87	90.92	90.92	90.85	90.86	589
Dec 87	90.90	90.91	90.85	90.85	203
Mar 88	*90.71*	*90.73*	*90.71*	*90.70*	*10*
Jun 88	NT	—	—	90.53	0
Sep 88	NT	—	—	90.35	0
Dec 88	NT	—	—	90.21	0
Previous day's total open interest 25294					
Three Month Eurodollar					
Mar 87	93.50	93.52	93.50	93.51	1239
Jun 87	93.53	93.58	93.51	93.57	3984
Sep 87	93.53	93.56	93.51	93.57	634
Dec 87	93.47	93.49	93.45	93.49	159
Mar 88	NT	—	—	93.35	0
Jun 88	NT	—	—	93.17	0
Sep 88	NT	—	—	92.98	0
Dec 88	92.73	92.73	92.73	92.75	10
Previous day's total open interest 27025					
US Treasury Bond					
Mar 87	*101-13*	*101-13*	*101-11*	*101-16*	*6*
Jun 87	99-29	100-14	99-24	100-12	3635
Sep 87	NT	—	—	99-10	0
Previous day's total open interest 3080					
Short Gilt					
Mar 87	NT	—	—	101-59	0
Jun 87	NT	—	—	—	
Sep 87	NT	—	—	—	
Previous day's total open interest 64					
Long Gilt					
Mar 87	122-25	122-28	122-05	122-04	71
Jun 87	123-08	123-08	122-10	122-13	31893
Sep 87	NT	—	—	122-07	0
Dec 87	NT	—	—	122-14	0
Mar 88	NT	—	—	—	
Previous day's total open interest 18745					
FT-SE 100					
Mar 87	197.80	198.90	197.75	198.65	983
Jun 87	201.50	202.35	201.50	202.00	332
Previous day's total open interest 4961					

Law Report March 13 1987

District auditor acted fairly in imposing surcharge

Lloyd and Others v McMahon

Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Templeman and Lord Griffiths

[Speeches March 12]

In failing to give the appellant councillors an oral hearing before certifying that £106,103 was due from them jointly and severally as being the amount of a loss incurred or deficiency caused by their wilful misconduct in delaying the making of a rate, the district auditor had not acted unfairly and the procedure that he had followed of inviting written representations from the councillors had not involved any prejudice to them.

The House of Lords dismissed an appeal by 47 councillors of Liverpool City Council from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Dillon and Lord Justice Woolf) on July 31, 1986 (*sub nom: Hood v McMahon* (*The Times* August 1, 1986)), who had affirmed the dismissal by the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Glidewell, Mr Justice Caulfield and Mr Justice Russell) (*sub nom: Gladden v McMahon* (*The Times* March 6, 1986)) of their appeal under section 20 of the Local Government Finance Act 1982.

Section 20(1) of the 1982 Act provides:

"Where it appears to the auditor carrying out the audit of any accounts under this Part of this Act - . . . (b) that a loss has been incurred or deficiency caused by the wilful misconduct of any person, he shall certify that . . . the amount of the loss or the deficiency is due from that person and . . . both he and the body in question . . . may recover that . . . amount for the benefit of that body; and if the auditor certifies under this section that any . . . amount is due from two or more persons, they shall be jointly and severally liable for that . . . amount."

Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, Miss Beverley Lang and Miss Heather Williams for the councillors; Mr Anthony Hidden, QC and Mr Mark Lowe for the *auditor*; Mr Charles Cross for the council.

LORD KEITH said that for the financial year beginning on April 1, 1985, the appellant councillors had brought it about that a rate for Liverpool was not set until June 14. That delay had led to delay in receiving various items of income, including government contributions in respect of *payments in lieu of rates* on Crown properties and rate rebates.

There had been similar trouble in respect of the financial year 1984-85 when in the event a rate had been made on July 10, 1984. The auditor's predecessor had expressed his concern and warned the councillors of the possible consequences to individuals, both financial and by way of disqualification, if an adequate rate were not made or if there were unreasonable delay in making a rate.

On April 10, 1985, the auditor's predecessor had again expressed his concern at the failure to make a rate and reiterated the duties of councillors and the possible consequences to the city and to individual councillors if those duties were not carried out. He had urged that a rate should be made at a very early date.

On May 7, 1985, the council's policy and finance committee had rejected a motion that the chairman submit proposals to the next council meeting to enable it to fix a rate, and that had been approved by the council on May 21.

On May 21, the auditor had given notice to the council and to all the councillors that unless the council made a lawful rate at latest before the end of May he would forthwith commence action under section 20 of the 1982 Act to recover any losses occasioned by the failure to make a rate from the members responsible for incurring them.

On June 6, the Audit Commission had directed that an extraordinary audit be carried out. On June 26, the auditor had sent to each of the appellant councillors a notice stating that he had to consider whether to certify the sum of £106,103, or any other sum, as due from them. He had notified them that they might make representations in writing to him before he reached a decision.

The facts gathered from documents appended to the notice had been stated to show that there had been no lawful justification for the delay.

Certain specific losses resulting from the delay had been identified, including the loss of interest on sums that would, but for the delay, have been paid at an earlier date than had actually been the case by the Department of Health and Social Security in respect of the rate rebates element of housing benefit subsidy and by the Treasury Valuer in respect of contributions in lieu of rates on Crown property. The total of such loss had been stated to be £106,103.

The appellant councillors had been identified as persons who by their voting or absence might have failed to discharge their duty as members of the council and might therefore be guilty of wilful misconduct resulting in the losses in question.

The councillors had chosen to make a collective response to the notice. It had been prepared with the assistance of the chief executive of the council, who was legally qualified and had great experience in local government, and had been sent to the auditor on July 19, 1985.

The councillors had relied on various matters that they claimed rebutted the auditor's provisional view that they had been guilty of wilful misconduct.

Their principal contention had been that, considering that the relevant legislation laid down no date by which a rate had to be set, it had been sufficient if they had done so *within a reasonable* time after the start of the financial year, and that the delay until June 14, 1985, had been reasonable because they had hoped or expected to be able to persuade ministers to make larger grants available to Liverpool than they had previously expressed themselves as willing to do.

In that respect they had founded on the circumstance *that in relation to the year* 1984-85 their efforts in that direction had met with some success and that the then district auditor in his report of June 7, 1984, had stressed the importance of June 20 as the latest date for making a rate, in order to permit of ratepayers exercising their statutory right to pay rates by 10 monthly instalments.

It had been contended that *the councillors* had been influenced throughout by a sincere desire to maximize the resources available to the people of Liverpool and thus to do their best to alleviate the unsatisfactory conditions prevailing there.

There had been sent along with the representations various documents to which it had been desired that the auditor should have regard as supporting the *councillors'* contentions.

It was to be observed that the representations had not faced up to the circumstance that, whether or not additional funds might have been secured from government sources, delay in making a rate must inevitably have had an adverse effect on the city's finances through delay in the receipt of items of income that depended on a rate having been set.

Nor had the representations drawn attention to any records, whether of meetings of the council and its committees or of meetings of the ruling political group represented by the appellant councillors, describing the reasons for the delay in making a rate.

On September 6, 1985, the auditor had issued his certificate. It had been accompanied by a lengthy statement of reasons for its issue setting out the history of the matter and dealing in considerable detail with the appellant councillors' representations, before setting out the auditor's conclusions.

Those had been that the delay in making a rate had been deliberate, that its intention had been to use the non-making of the rate as a lever in an attempt to prise additional money from central government, that there had been no justifiable reason for supposing that delay would influence central government to increase the rate support grant and that the councillors had known that to delay unreasonably was a wrongful act or had been recklessly indifferent as to whether it was or not.

Finally, it had been concluded that a loss of £106,103 was a direct consequence of the delay in making a rate, and the appellant councillors had been identified as those responsible for the delay.

Before the Divisional Court, counsel then acting for the appellant councillors appeared to have concentrated on the merits of the appeal rather than on *allegations of procedural* irregularity on the part of the auditor. Affidavits had been lodged by all the councillors together with a considerable amount of documentary evidence that had not been before the auditor.

Although invited to do so, none of the councillors had given any oral evidence. Their counsel had submitted that it would be inappropriate for the court to investigate the proceedings of the political caucus represented by them. The decision of the Divisional Court dismissing the appeal had been affirmed by the Court of Appeal.

The argument for the councillors in the House of Lords had not invited their Lordships to enter deeply into the merits of *the question* whether or not they had been guilty of wilful misconduct, nor had attention been drawn to any details of the affidavits and other material placed before the Divisional Court.

The substance of the argument had been that the auditor's decision had been vitiated by his failure to offer the councillors an oral hearing before reaching it and should therefore have been quashed.

The argument had been supported by an examination of earlier legislation in regard to local government audits, starting with the Poor Law Amendment Act 1844, where oral hearings had been the order of the day. It had been maintained that the councillors had had a legitimate expectation that they would be offered an oral hearing before the auditor arrived at his decision.

If the auditor had reached a decision adverse to the councillors without giving them any opportunity at all of making representations to him, there could be no doubt that his procedure would have been contrary to the rules of natural justice and that, subject to the question whether the defect had *been capable of being cured on* appeal to the Divisional Court, the decision would have fallen to be quashed.

In the event, written representations alone had been asked for. Those had been duly furnished, in considerable detail, and an oral hearing had not been requested, although that could easily have been done, and there was no reason to *suppose* that the request would not have been granted.

None of the councillors had stated, in his or her affidavit before the Divisional Court, that he had had an expectation that an oral hearing, though not asked for, would be offered.

The true question was whether the auditor had acted fairly in all the circumstances. It was easy to envisage cases where *an oral hearing would* clearly be essential in the interests of fairness.

If the councillors had attended an oral hearing they would no doubt have reiterated the sincerity of their motives from the point of view of advancing the interests of the inhabitants of Liverpool.

It seemed unlikely, having regard to the position adopted by their counsel on that matter before the Divisional Court, that they would have been willing to reveal or answer questions about the proceedings of their political caucus.

The sincerity of their motives was not something capable of justifying or excusing failure to carry out a statutory duty or of making reasonable what otherwise had been an unreasonable delay in carrying out such a duty.

In all the circumstances, his Lordship was of opinion that the auditor had not acted unfairly and that the procedure that he had followed had not involved any prejudice to the councillors.

On that view, the question whether such unfairness, had it existed, had been capable of being cured by the appeal to the High Court did not arise directly for decision.

It was, however, his Lordship's opinion that the particular appeal mechanism provided for by section 20(3) of the 1982 Act, considered in its context, was apt to enable the court, notwithstanding that it found some procedural defect in the conduct of an audit that had resulted in a certificate based on wilful misconduct, to inquire into the merits of the case and arrive at its own decision.

His Lordship agreed entirely with the reasons of the Divisional Court and the Court of Appeal for rejecting the councillors' argument that the loss of £106,103 had not been shown to have been caused by their wilful misconduct.

Lord Bridge and Lord Templeman delivered opinions concurring in dismissing the appeal, and Lord Brandon and Lord Griffiths agreed.

Solicitors: Christian Fisher & Co; Clifford-Turner; Mr William Murray, Liverpool.

Duty not to waste Lords' time

Ainsbury v Millington

Before Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Ackner, Lord Oliver of Aylmerton and Lord Goff of Chieveley

[Speeches March 12]

It was the duty of counsel and solicitors in any pending appeal in publicly funded litigation, whenever an event occurred which *arguably disposed of* the matter in contention, either to ensure that the appeal was withdrawn by consent or, in the absence of agreement, to bring the facts promptly to the appellate court and to seek directions.

The House of Lords so held in dismissing an appeal from a decision of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Dillon and Lord Justice Croom-Johnson) (*The Times* August 12, 1985) in respect of an application for an ouster injunction.

The House had declined to hear argument on the merits of the appeal after hearing that the council house had been restored to the possession of the council and that neither party to the appeal any longer lived there.

Mr Joseph Jackson, QC and Miss Lindsey Oliver for the appellant; Mr John Samuels, QC and Mr Nicholas Wood for the respondent.

LORD BRIDGE said that the appellants had submitted that the principle in *Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada v Jervis* ([1944] AC 111, 113-114) [that the House did not decide academic questions] should be confined in its application to cases where the point of law at issue was peculiar to the facts of the case or arose on the construction of particular documents.

It should not, it was submitted, inhibit the House from resolving, even in the absence of any live issue between the parties, a question of law of general importance which, as was said to be the case in the present appeal, different decisions of the Court of Appeal had left in doubt.

Assuming without deciding that that was the case, his Lordship did not see that it made any difference, nor could he accept that the principle in *Sun Life* was to be limited as suggested.

In the instant case neither party could have any interest at all in the outcome of the appeal. Their joint tenancy of property which was the subject matter of the dispute no longer existed. *Even if the House thought* that the Court of Appeal had been wrong there was no order which could now be made to give effect to that view.

It had always been a fundamental feature of our judicial system that the courts decided disputes between the parties before them; they did not pronounce on abstract questions of law when there was no dispute to be resolved.

Different considerations could arise in relation to what were called "friendly actions" and conceivably in relation to proceedings instituted specifically as a test case. The instant appeal did not *fall* within either of those categories.

Again, litigation could sometimes be properly continued for the sole purpose of resolving an issue as to costs when all other matters in dispute had been resolved. In the present case, however, both parties were legally aided throughout with nil contributions.

It was the duty of counsel and solicitors in any pending appeal in publicly funded litigation, whenever an event occurred which arguably disposed of the *lis*, either to ensure that the appeal was withdrawn by consent or, if there was no agreement to that course, to bring the facts promptly to the attention of the appellate court and to seek directions.

Lord Brandon, Lord Ackner, Lord Oliver and Lord Goff agreed.

Solicitors: Church Adams Tatham & Co; Brain & Brain, Basingstoke.

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Motoring by Clifford Webb

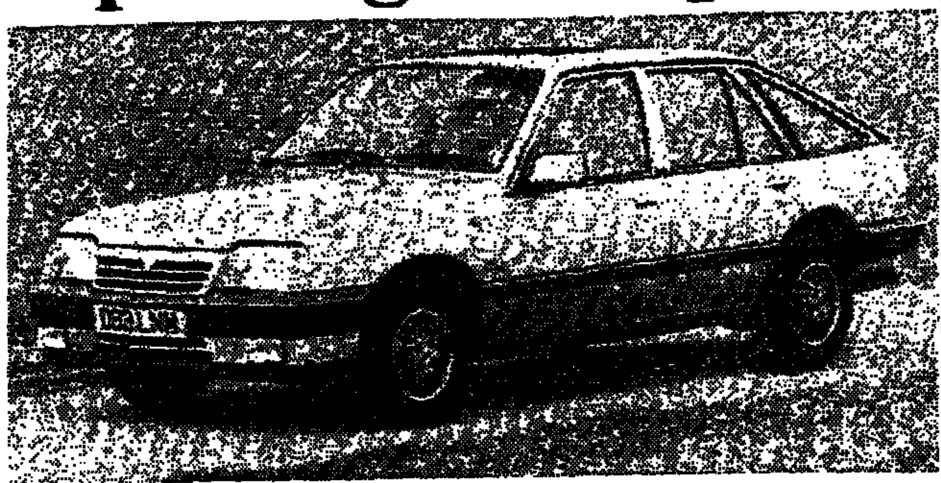
Cavaliers packing a new punch

The 1,500 mile round trip by road to Geneva provides an excuse to test the latest, and *usually most expensive*, luxury model around. Mercedes and BMWs are popular choices for a journey which is now motorway for all but 100 miles or so. This year, however, I decided to make the run in more mid-range transport and chose a *Vauxhall* Cavalier.

I did so for two reasons. After four years of remarkable success, particularly as a company and fleet car, it is now coming under attack from the late-emerging Ford Sierra, recently reinforced by the booted Sierra Sapphire.

The second reason is that the five-year-old Cavalier has had a facelift for 1987. Exterior changes are minor cosmetics such as new grille, bumpers, side mouldings and tail light clusters. Inside, the rather cluttered layout has been cleaned up, the trim is plusher and new height-adjustable seat belts are a boon.

When the front wheel drive Cavalier appeared in 1981, its most appealing asset was its new family of zippy overhead camshaft engines. This year they have been extensively modified to improve economy and performance. But more importantly for the driver travelling fast and far a new two litre, 115bhp engine has been added with the latest Bosch Motronic fuel injection system. At this stage the engine is only available in the top-of-the-range Cavalier CD. A higher powered 130bhp version will be appearing shortly.



The 1987 Vauxhall Cavalier CD: Minor changes to looks, but a new 115bhp fuel injected engine helps both economy and performance

It was the comprehensively equipped CD I took to Geneva. The most appealing improvement is the extra *bottom end "punch"*. Put your foot down to overtake and the power comes in with a whoosh that would not be out of place on a much larger engine. It also remains smooth throughout the rev range.

Vital statistics

Model: Vauxhall Cavalier CDi *hatchback*
Price £10,831 (auto £462 extra)
Engine: 1998cc injected
Performance: 0-60mph 10 seconds, maximum speed 112mph
Official consumption: Urban 26.6mpg, 56mph 39.2mpg and 75mph 30.7mpg
Length: 14 feet
Insurance: Group 5

One of the Cavalier's biggest pluses has always been its stability at speed. This was much in evidence when we encountered gale force cross-winds on several hundred miles of French autoroute.

The test car was equipped with GM's now outdated three speed automatic transmission. This was a pity because the company now has one of the best four speed automatics on the market, with overdrive top and a fuel-saving torque lock-up for high speed cruising. Initial production, however, seems to be earmarked for the new Carlton.

Until it reaches the Cavalier I would prefer the more economical five speed manual. At the French autoroute maximum of 80mph the engine was turning at around 4,000rpm – that is about 500rpm too much. Nevertheless I averaged over 28 miles per gallon.

Putting steering before style

The Geneva Motor Show is traditionally the showcase of the stylist, while the Frankfurt Show is reserved for the engineer. At Geneva last week, however, it was the race to be first into production *with four-wheel steering* which was one of the big talking points, not the latest body shape.

Four-wheel steering (4WS) has been around for many years, but until now has been confined to specialist vehicles or publicity gimmicks like the specially adapted Nissan Skyline, on sale in Japan, with a crude system for steering the rear wheels to make parking easier in congested city streets.

Now several of the world's major car makers are poised to launch 4WS this year, including Honda, Mazda and General Motors. It was Honda who stole the limelight at Geneva with a system which will be made available for testing by British journalists within the next couple of weeks.

Advantages claimed are better low speed manoeuvring and parking, greater stability at high speed, particularly in cross-winds, and quicker steering response. Disadvantages include more weight, valuable space lost by the extra steering box and up to £600 more on the price.

Cracks in Mercedes' image

Mercedes Benz's stand was the centre of a great deal of interest at Geneva – not all of it welcome.

Reports are circulating in the German motoring press suggesting that the new mid-range 200-300 *models*, introduced last year, are less than perfect. There are reported problems with noisy back axles, body rattles and cracked windscreens.

Many of the complaints have been verified by the ADAC, the West German motoring organization, which has just issued its own report.

A spokesman for Mercedes Benz UK told me: "We have had very few problems in Britain because right hand drive models were not produced for some months. In that time the factory reacted quickly to improve quality. It was a consequence of the rapid growth in production from 550,000 cars in 1985 to 594,000 last year. This year's growth will be much smaller. It is the shock effect of a problem of any kind with a Mercedes which got such widespread publicity in Germany."

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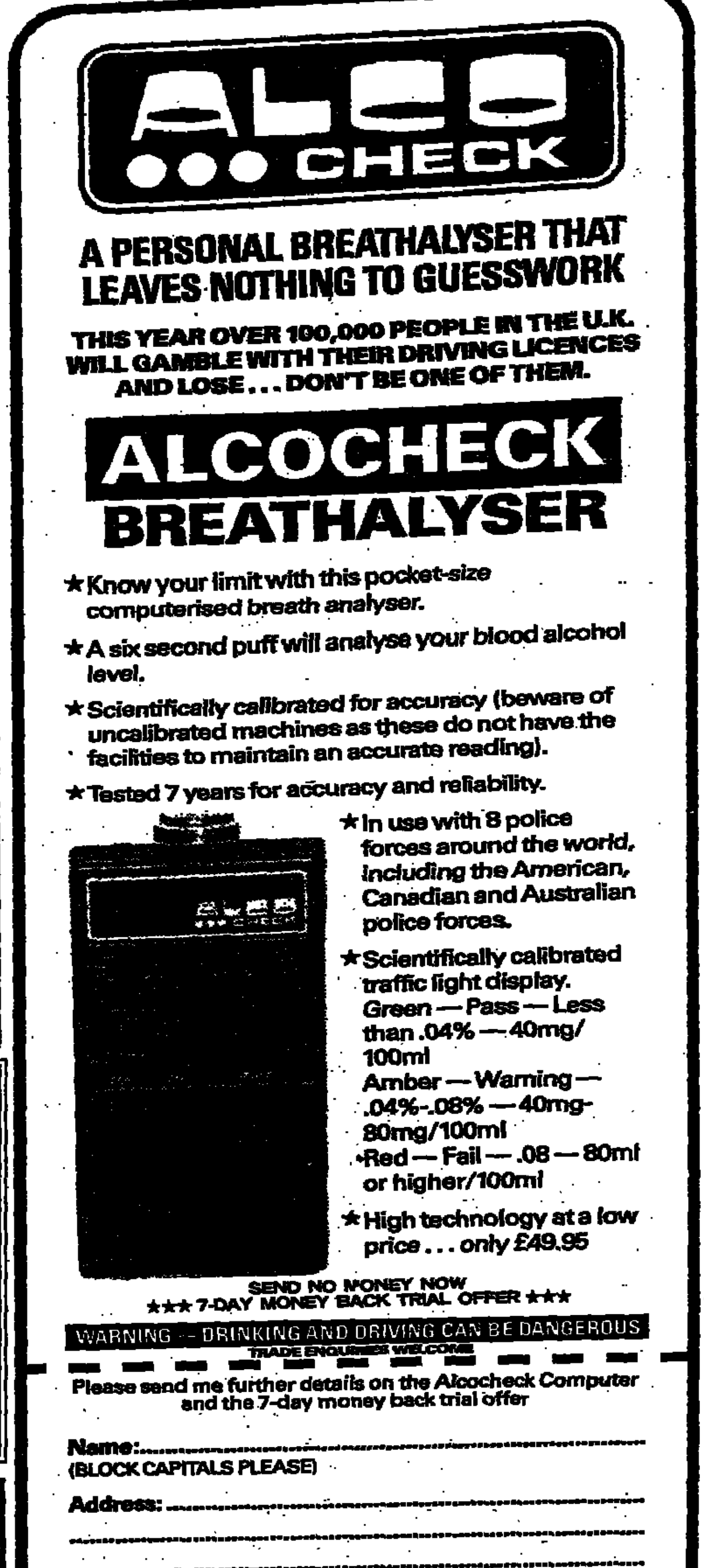

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BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

Continued from page 34

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
No. 00897 of 1987
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF SMALLBONE PLC
- and -
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 26th February 1987 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the Company from £1,536,468 to £136,468.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr Justice Vinelott at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Monday 23rd day of March 1987.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an order for the confirmation of the said reduction of the said Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

DATED this 13th day of March 1987

TITMUSS, SAINER & WEBB
2 Serjeants' Inn
London EC4Y 1LT
Ref: C93/S413-013
Solicitors for the above named Company

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NASH & HULL SIGNS LIMITED
(Company Number: 148536)
Registered Office:
Valley House
Lea Valley Trading Estate
Angel Road, Edmonton
London N18 3HR

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of Nash & Hull Signs Limited will be held at The Bonnington Hotel, 92 Southampton Row, London WC1 at 11 o'clock on 26th day of March 1987 for the purposes provided for in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.

To entitle you to vote thereat a statement of your claim must be lodged prior to the meeting with Mr M.C. Withall (a licenced insolvency practitioner) at Grant Thornton, telephone 01 405 8422, who will provide further details concerning the proposed liquidation.

DATED this 3rd day of March 1987

PETER A BLUNDELL
DIRECTOR

TO THE CREDITORS OF THE FREDERICK PARKER GROUP PLC

We, Michael A. Jordan and Robin M. Addy of Cork Gully, Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ, the administrative receivers of the above named company, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that creditors of the company may obtain, free of charge, copies of the report we have prepared under section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 by applying to us in writing at the above address (quoting reference SH 518)

6 March 1987
R.M. ADDY

TO THE CREDITORS OF HIREPLANT LIMITED

We, Michael A. Jordan and Robin M. Addy of Cork Gully, Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ, the administrative receivers of the above named company, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that creditors of the company may obtain, free of charge, copies of the report we have prepared under section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 by applying to us in writing at the above address (quoting reference SH 518)

6 March 1987
R M. ADDY

TO THE CREDITORS OF FREDERICK PARKER PLC

We, Michael A. Jordan and Robin M. Addy of Cork Gully, Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ, the administrative receivers of the above named company, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that creditors of the company may obtain, free of charge, copies of the report we have prepared under section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 by applying to us in writing at the above address (quoting reference SH 518)

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YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Little easing in VAT load

By Anne Warden

The threshold at which companies have to register for Value Added Tax — the small businessman's bugbear — is thought likely to rise only in line with the rate of inflation, between 3 and 4 per cent, in next week's Budget.

Many small business groups have called for a higher rise in real terms to save more firms at the lower end of the scale from the heavy burden of paperwork that the tax imposes.

Some want the present threshold of £20,500 annual turnover to rise to as much as £50,000. That would help many firms, such as construction companies, to offer a cheaper service to customers, they argue. However, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is unlikely to fulfil their hopes this time round, even though the Prime Minister is known to support such a rise. The figure is expected to go up only to about £21,500.

Movement to raise the threshold is constrained by EEC rules, and a bigger rise will have to be negotiated there first. An existing draft directive on VAT, if implemented, could bring a further small increase for British companies. Meanwhile the Government is considering other ways of easing the load for small firms.

Two measures Mr Lawson may announce would take some of the paperwork out of VAT. One, cash accounting, would allow companies to account for VAT in cash instead of having to rely on invoices only, as at present, a procedure which has meant extra record-keeping. The other is designed to put VAT accounting on an annual basis, cutting down the number of times companies have to work out their returns. Those measures, if introduced, are expected to be limited to firms with an annual turnover of not more than £100,000.

The number of small firms coming into the VAT net is rising by around 500 a week, figures to be published soon by the Department of Employment are expected to show. The total number of firms registered is thought to have been about 1.44 million at the end of 1985, and 90 per cent of companies are believed to have a turnover of less than £500,000 a year.

Deregistrations are also thought to be increasing, and evidence is expected to show that the second and third years of operation are the most perilous for new firms.

Engrained with the medieval art

By Brian Collett

The individual craftsman of today stands out in a world of mass production and throwaway goods. It is even more surprising to find such a craftsman following a medieval trade in mundane north London.

Benjamin and Freda Vorst run a small company manufacturing parchment. Mr Vorst says with some modesty: "We are parchment-makers — perhaps nothing exciting, but we are the only one in London, and besides us there is only one more firm that makes a similar article."

Parchment, as few will now know, is the blanket term for all animal skin prepared for writing and printing. A more specialized form of parchment is vellum, made from the skin of calves. Its virtue is its denser and finer network, which helps to achieve a better finished product.

Ros Drinkwater

Benjamin and Freda Vorst sharpen the blade for smoothing skin surfaces

Mr Vorst got the bug for parchment-making at least 15 years ago when he re-met an old friend who wanted a piece of good vellum but found that the quality of the material then available was below the standard required.

Mr Vorst explains the scarcity: "A lot of people capable of making this product died in the Second World War. The craft went into a decline and became unpopular."

Mr and Mrs Vorst had identified a market. They carried out painstaking research to understand the medieval art and experimented in their own back garden to perfect their product.

They consulted writings in libraries all over the country and sought out old craftsmen who still had some knowledge of the subject. Eventually they started production in 1975, and now, trading under the name Benyon Ltd from their Tottenham factory, they are fully operational and fully occupied.

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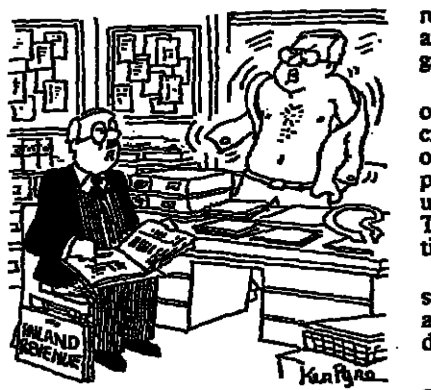
Mr FRIDAY



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BRIEFING

- ■ Running a village shop is the subject of a series of weekend courses to be run by CoSIRA, the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas, from this month until the end of year. More than 100,000 small grocery outlets have vanished in the past 25 years, many because of lack of expertise, the group says.
- ● **Details:** *the Retail Officer, Cosira, 141 Castle St, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 3TP (tel: 0722 336255, ext. 326).*
- ■ A series of free one-day courses on how to make the most of a limited advertising budget begins next Friday at Manchester Polytechnic.
- ● **Details:** *D. A. Moss, the Small Business Centre, Manchester Polytechnic, Aytoun Building, Aytoun St, Manchester M13 GH (tel: 061 228 6171, ext. 2444).*

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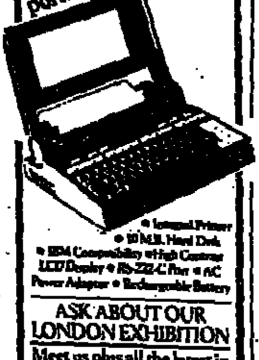

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Continued on page 33

هكذا من الإهمال

Weighing up the men most likely to step in as the new tennis 'supremo' once Hutchins has vacated his post

LTA look to pedigree for new coach

From Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent
Mexico City

The Lawn Tennis Association are advertising for three coaches, to look after the men's international team and two squads of full-time players who could graduate to the same level. Ian Peacock, executive director of the LTA, expects the posts to be filled by the end of September. The coaching structure of British women's tennis will be reconsidered next year.

The big job, taking charge of the top squad for at least 30 weeks a year, will go to a formerly prominent player who has proved his worth as a coach and motivator.

For 12 years Paul Hutchins has managed and captained British teams — for a year or so he will continue to do so — while creating and organizing the training department. He has earned the respect of those who have worked with him.

The extent to which he should be blamed for Britain's failure to produce top class players is debatable.

Hutchins has never regarded himself as a coach but is enthusiastic about the squad system, which will lead to his resignation from full-time LTA work at the end of the year. The appointment of three national coaches suggests an awareness that he took on more than one man could manage.

Hutchins has made the most of a modest crop

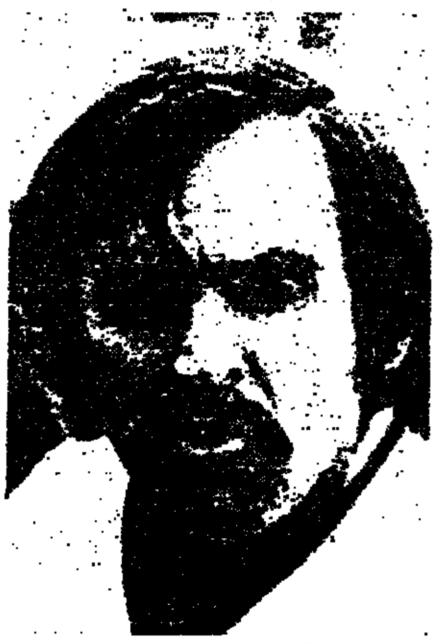
As their Davis Cup captain, Hutchins has made the most of a modest crop and it is reasonable that he should carry on until a new 'supremo', with more expertise as a coach, is ready to take over the specialized job of captaincy. Hutchins will pass on one particularly useful legacy.

The five players who have spent the past fortnight here, preparing to play Mexico from today until Sunday, have only modest world rankings — but it must doubted if there is, at present, a fitter Davis Cup squad anywhere.

Those players are Jeremy Bates, Stuart Bale, Andrew Castle, Nick Fulwood and Mike Walker. Their ages range from 20 to 24 and there is better tennis in them than they have yet produced. It will be up to them and their new boss, whoever he is, to maintain their present fitness and improve their match-playing ability.

Cox: Internationally experienced player

Bosch: Proved his ability with Becker


Davidson: Held post from 1967 to 1970

Fletcher: Import with the right credentials

The identity of the international team's coach depends on who is available, how good they are, and how much money they want. Hutchins and Peacock optimistically hope that the best man for the job will approach the LTA, rather than the other way around. More reasonably, they insist that he must commit himself totally to British tennis.

Men like Roy Emerson, Tony Roche and Fred Stolle have well-paid and satisfying jobs and could not be expected to commit themselves to Britain for 30 weeks a year. That may also apply to another Australian, Bob Brett, a coach in the Hopman mould, says the LTA job would be attractive only if the "environment" was right.

"It's a question of the people you have to work with," Brett says, "and if they expect you to be responsible for results, you have to be able to make all the decisions."

Other Australian possibilities, for the top job or one of the others, are Owen Davidson (LTA coach from 1967 to 1970), Ken Fletcher and Warren Jacques. There is gossip, too, about Gunther Bosch (West Germany), Frew McMillan (South Africa) and Pavel Slozil (Czechoslovakia).

The LTA will be lucky — and will have to pay heavily — if they can tempt a better man than the home-grown coaches who have already worked for them. There could be places in the new set-up for such men as Mark Cox, Roger Taylor, Richard Lewis, Buster Mottram, Nigel Sears and a few others.

'We should have returned to the squad system'

Tony Pickard, who coaches Stefan Edberg, is not exactly bubbling with enthusiasm but says the LTA know where to find him. Mike Davies could revitalize British tennis — but as an administrator, motivator and fund-raiser rather than as a coach.

Hutchins was one of the "Barrett Boys", the pioneering LTA training squad of the late 1960s. John Barrett, a former Davis Cup player and captain, adapted to Britain the scheme Harry Hopman ran in Australia.

Barrett's innovation never had the whole-hearted LTA support and financial backing it needed. Sweden, France and other nations learned from his example but the LTA has been slow to do so.

"We should have gone back to the squad system some time ago," Barrett says. "Paul tried it for a time but did not have enough funds." These days Barrett has so many other fish to fry that he has moved out of the reckoning.

"There is a huge job to be done among British coaches," he says. "A lot of them are not very good — because there are few full-time coaches with permanent indoor facilities. Arthur Roberts was the only one who had that and the only one who consistently produced good players — Joan Curry, Angela Mortimer, Mike Sangster and Sue Barker."

Cox considers that the modest tournament record of British players is not the fault of the national training department. British schoolchildren, he says, have neither the time nor the facilities to play enough supervised tennis.

Clubs budget for survival rather than growth

"The problem," Cox argues, "is in developing the game at grass roots. Many British clubs budget for survival rather than growth. They cannot help youngsters as, for example, German and Italian clubs do.

And tennis is such an expensive game here. The costs are enormous — basically because tennis is not available on the doorstep."

Barrett and Cox remind us, in short, that no matter how good the national coaches may be, they will merely run a finishing school to refine the talent others find for them.

CRICKET: RIVAL CAPTAINS AT LOGGERHEADS AS TEST SERIES HEADS TOWARDS STALEMATE

Made-to-order Bangalore wicket favours spinners

From Qamar Ahmed, Bangalore

History is against any team looking for a good Test result at Bangalore. A recent survey by an Indian computer analyst suggests that the ground is one of the worst for producing anything other than a draw.

And with the fifth and final Test against Pakistan beginning here today — the first four ended in draws — it is likely that we may see yet another match ending in stalemate.

The tempo of the series has already been set. Neither side is prepared to take any chances for fear that they will lose a Test and invoke the wrath of their staunch supporters.

It has happened before. After Bishen Bedi's side lost to Pakistan 2-0 in Pakistan in 1978, he lost the captaincy, as did Sunil Gavaskar, who lost 3-0 in a six-match Test series when Imran Khan, at the peak of his form, demolished them through sheer pace in 1982-83.

As is customary, the home side have the advantage of producing their own wicket to suit their bowling. The wicket here has been made to suit the spinners. Pakistan possess a better pace attack in Imran Khan, Wasim Akram and Saleem Jaffer, than India, who can only boast of Kapil Dev, who is not even half the bowler he used to be after a knee operation. The stress is therefore on the spinners and India, like Pakistan, have them in abundance.

So far, however, they have not been able to run through a side, despite made-to-order wickets. Alhough the wicket in the fourth Test at Ahmedabad did assist the slow men right from the first day, it did not really have the right kind of bounce to unsettle the batsmen. The result was that both teams made huge scores.

"Though both the teams are packed with spinners, they do not have the quality to bowl the side out," Imran said after the Ahmedabad Test ended in a draw. His trump card, the leg spinner, Abdul Qadir, is not bowling well, perhaps because he was laid off for two months after the injury to his left arm during the last series against the West Indies at home.

He was dropped in the Jaipur Test and did not make any impression at Ahmedabad. Alhough the Bangalore wicket is predicted to be another slow track, I doubt if he will make the team. The off-spinner, Tauseef Ahmed, may come into the side instead.

Javed Miandad's back is still bothering him and he may miss yet another Test. Imran seems keen on reshuffling his batting and instead of Ramiz Raja opening with Rizwan-uz-Zaman, he may prefer to open with Younis Ahmed with Ramiz batting at No 3 and Manzoor Elahi coming earlier in the order.

Alhough Roger Binny and the leg- spinner, Sivaramakrishnan, have replaced Gopal Sharma and Sadanand Viswanath from the Ahmedabad 14, I feel, of the two, Siva will be preferred. He has not played in a Test since 1985 when he bowled badly at Melbourne against Australia.

At the fag end of the series, the two captains, unable to get any result, have been making charges and counter-charges.

Win or draw, the attraction will of course be Sunil Gavaskar, who is contemplating calling it a day in the final Test.

INDIA (from): S M Gavaskar, K Srikkanth, M Amarnath, D B Vengsarkar, M Azharuddin, R J Shastri, Kapil Dev (capt), K S More, N S Yadav, Maninder Singh, L Sivaramakrishnan, R M H Binny, Arun Lal, R R Kulkarni.

PAKISTAN (from): Rizwan-uz-Zaman, Younis Ahmed, Ramiz Raja, Salim Malik, Manzoor Elahi, Ijaz Faqih, Imran Khan (capt), Salim Yousuf, Wasim Akram, Iqbal Qasim, Tauseef Ahmed, Abdul Qadir, Saleem Jaffer.

Minor shake-up gives counties better chance

By Mike Berry

The Minor Counties Cricket Association have amended the qualification system for the NatWest Trophy. Until now the leading 13 minor counties have won places in the first round of the NatWest Trophy on the basis of the top six in each of the eastern and western divisions being joined by the best finishing seventh placed county.

But from this season onwards the overall top 13 sides on points gained will qualify, no matter which section they are in. The move follows such anomalies as Norfolk failing to qualify from the eastern division in 1985 after finishing eighth with 28 points, the same season in which five western division counties went into the hat with 25 points or fewer to their name.

Another change in the Minor Counties this season involves possible longer playing hours. Where play is lost on the opening day of a championship fixture, an equal amount will be added to the end of the day up to a maximum of an extra hour.

- Staffordshire are to be sponsored by the Ind Coope brewery, of Burton-on-Trent, for the next five years. The deal will be *worth over £10,000 in total.*
- Stephen Henderson, the former Worcestershire and Glamorgan batsman, will play Minor Counties cricket for Hertfordshire this summer. Henderson, a Cambridge Blue, previously appeared in the Minor Counties for Shropshire in 1982.
- Advance ticket sales for England's one-day Texaco Trophy international against Pakistan at the Oval on May 21 have already brought in £115,000. Ian Childs, Surrey County Cricket Club's marketing manager, said: "We are anticipating a sell-out for this match before the end of April so we advise those wishing to book tickets to do so without delay."

Moxon: getting to grips with his batting problem

Moxon fighting back

Martyn Moxon, the Yorkshire and England batsman, spent most of last season fighting a series of injuries to his hands that badly hampered a summer when he should have been at the peak of his five-year career.

Chosen for England in two of the Test matches against New Zealand, mainly on the strength of a century in each innings against the Indian touring team, Moxon failed to complete 1,000 runs in the championship and his fingers were so regularly bruised, dislocated or broken in the field that he was dropped for Yorkshire's last match.

"It became embarrassing and frustrating. I could not go near the ball without something going wrong and it affected my batting because I could not grip the handle properly."

Moxon, who scored a century on his debut, was advised to toughen the bones in both hands and has been regularly going through a training routine on the heavy bag under the Football Stand at Headingley and other gymnasia this winter, as well as doing fingertip press-ups and exercising his hands.

"I have a lot more confidence in them now and I hope I can get back to more normal form this season. If you want to be an England player, and anyone who has sampled the Test match atmosphere does, you have got to regularly put together big innings and make something near 2,000 runs. I know what is wanted and now it's up to me to produce the goods."

The tall, elegant opener has not enjoyed the best of fortune in the last two years, missing his first cap against West Indies because of cracked ribs, forced to leave the India party because of his father's death and ending the B team tour of Sri Lanka with an infected eye followed by the succession of hand injuries.

His new-found confidence will be given an early examination when a Yorkshire squad of 14, under the leadership of the new captain Phil Carrick, flies to the Caribbean next weekend for a three-week tour.

Martin Searby

GOLF

McEvoy has road to top mapped out

By Mitchell Platts

Peter McEvoy tomorrow launches the 1987 amateur season by defending the Berkhamsted Trophy. It represents the first opportunity for McEvoy to underline that his international career is far from over, despite his surprising omission from the Walker Cup team.

McEvoy has mapped out a hectic campaign aimed at bringing his game to the boil for events such as the Amateur Championship when he will have the opportunity to emphasize his formidable skills against the best opposition. "It's going to be my busiest year for some time," McEvoy explained. "I'm going to play a full season with the intention of proving my worth."

McEvoy has refused to become embroiled in the controversy surrounding his unforeseen exclusion in December from the Great Britain and Ireland team who will face the United States at Sunningdale on May 27 and 28. Behind the scenes there have been rumours of McEvoy upsetting certain officials while preparing in October for the Eisenhower Trophy in Venezuela. Even so his punishment would appear to be harsh, even if there is a crime to answer.

McEvoy has remained silent, preferring to wait for the opportunity to allow his clubs to provide the perfect reply, although in the Berkhamsted Trophy he will have only one — Jeremy Robinson (Woodhall Spa) — of the Walker Cup team among his rivals.

In fact he is surprised at the lack of interest shown by the Walker Cup squad which has already been instructed not to compete in the Golf Illustrated Gold Vase. "I'm anxious to get going again," McEvoy added. "I've been in Spain with the England squad and my attitude is to get in as much competitive golf as I can. It is, after all, such a short amateur season."

McEvoy won the Berkhamsted Trophy 12 months ago after a two-hole play-off with Roger Roper, who on this occasion, is not in the field. Stephen Bottomley, Freddie George, Steve Hamer and Ian Brotherston, who is travelling from Scotland, are likely with Robinson to be the leading contenders to remove the title from McEvoy over 36 holes, all of which will be played on Saturday.

Swinging the Blues in President's Putter

By Patricia Davies

Like the Boat Race, the result of the President's Putter this year is a foregone conclusion — it will be either Oxford or Cambridge.

Having been driven from Rye by snow in January, the semi-finalists reconvene tomorrow with the final bound to be an inter-varsity affair. Two Cambridge men, David Meacher and Bill Barclay, contest the first semi-final and the second is a battle between the Oxford men, Ian Armitage and Paul Vickers.

Meacher, the current Cambridge secretary, is the only undergraduate of the four, while Armitage is the only one with experience of this stage of the competition. He reached the final in 1981, going down by one hole to Alex Holmes.

The form of all four must be a matter of some conjecture, given the two-month gap between matches and the gremlins that can tamper with even the best-honed swing.

The weather, too, may be unfamiliar. It has been sunny at Rye for most of the week, with just the odd touch of frost

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Eagles have landed an under-21 cap

By Keith Macklin

Sheffield Eagles, the fledgling second division club, are given a boost by the selection of one of their players for the Great Britain Under-21 team to play France in the return game at St Helens. Although Steve Lidbury is reserve to travel, his selection by the Great Britain coach, Malcolm Reilly, is a great fillip for a club striving to establish Rugby League in a fooball stronghold.

Another young player given recognition is Gary Disley, of Salford, who is the other travelling reserve. The scrum half, Paul Bishop, and the forward, Gary Sanderson, both of Warrington, who had mediocre games in the first international, are dropped to substitute.

Great Britain won the first under-21 international in France by 40-7 and are expected to continue their 100 per cent record against the French.

TEAM: C Bibb (Featherstone Rovers); P Eastwood (Hull), D Wright (Widnes), P Loughlin, K McCormack (St Helens); M Ford (Leigh), S Edwards (Wigan, captain); A Dannatt (Hull), M Dermott (Wigan), N Puckering (Hull), P Hulme (Widnes), P Medley (Leeds), G Divorty (Hull). Subs: P Bishop, G Sanderson (Warrington). Reserves to travel: S Lidbury (Sheffield Eagles), G Disley (Salford).

MOTOR SPORT

Jones slows down in the comeback lane

By a Special Correspondent

Alan Jones, the 1980 world motor racing champion, confirmed this week that he will not be continuing the grand prix comeback he made in 1985 after leaving the Williams team.

The Australian will not, however, be going back to retirement on his farm, as he did at the end of 1981, but will undertake a limited programme of sports car races. He will contest the Le Mans 24 Hours and Fuji races in the world sports prototype championship and drive a Toyota saloon in the Far East's touring car championship.

- Drivers denied the chance to race last weekend because of snow at Silverstone have been sharpening their claws in readiness for the Lucas British Formula Three championship opener at Thruxton on Sunday.

During testing at the Snetterton track in Norfolk the British drivers. Johnny Herbert, Perry McCarthy and the favourite, Martin Donnelly, have been setting a scorching pace in their Reynards.

- The MG Metro 6R4 rally car is fast becoming the popular replacement for the Ford Escort as the leading clubman's car and 13 of them are entered on the Skip Brown Rally in Llandudno, North Wales tomorrow when the first test is a three-mile sprint on the tight and twisting coast road round the Great Orme promontory.

The top seed and favourite to win the second round of the Marlboro National Championship is Malcolm Wilson, Austin Rover's international driver, who dominated the first event in January.

He is not competing for championship honours, however, and the real struggle on the 75 miles of forest tracks in the Betws-Y-Coed area will be between a handful of top clubmen.

They include the winner of the opening round, John Brown, an engineer from Cheltenham, who was hotly pursued by David Gillanders and Ken Brown in the increasingly popular four-wheel drive cars.

The legendary Roger Clark, who was fifth on his first event after a two-year lay-off, also in a Metro and the very powerful home-built 5 litre Escort of Alan Edwards are most likely to pose a threat in the entry of 115on the one-day event.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

Third division
Chesterfield v Swindon
Fourth division
Crewe v Southend
Stockport v Burnley
Tranmere v Halifax

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Norwich v Crystal Palace.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Queen's College, Cambridge v Meiji Univ (Tokyo, 2.30pm).

BASKETBALL

BRITISH MASTERS: Second elimination round: Sunderland 76ers v Livingston (8.0).

LACROSSE

WOMEN: England v England Reserves (at Crystal Palace NSC, 7.0).

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Kodak classic: England v US (at Cosford).
BADMINTON: Yonex All England championships (at Wembley Arena).
BOWLS: Men's home internationals indoor series (at Aberdeen).
GOLF: Roehampton Gold Cup.
HOCKEY: Barclays Bank Women's national championship finals (at Ealing).

SPORT ON TV

ICE SKATING: World figure championships, Cincinnati. BBC2: 3.03pm. BBC1: 11.05pm. C4: 3pm. ITV: 11.30pm.
INTERNATIONAL ATHLETICS: Kodak Classic: England v US live from RAF Cosford. ITV: 7.30-8.30pm. C4: 9pm.

HOCKEY

South Koreans plan a British tour in preparation for 1988 Olympics

By Sydney Friskin

South Korea, the Asian Games champions, and Pakistan, the Olympic champions, have accepted invitations to join Great Britain in the Lada Classic international tournament at Willesden on October 10 and 11.

South Korea, the host country for the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, have asked to stay for 20 days so that they can play matches up and down the country and this proposal has been accepted.

Australia, the World Cup holders, the fourth country invited to Willesden, have expressed a wish to come but they are looking for sponsorship.

The Australians, however, have accepted an invitation to play in the Sultan Aslan Shah tournament from April 14 to 20 at Ipoh, Malaysia where they will be joined by Malaysia, the host country, West Germany, Pakistan, Japan and Great Britain.

A total of 27 players from England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will attend a three-day Great Britain training weekend at Lilleshall starting today. From April 3 to 5 at the same place there will be another training weekend, after which the team will be selected and depart for Malaysia on April 7.

A full Great Britain side will then be prepared for the Champions Trophy tournament in Amsterdam from June 18 to 28. This is a qualifying tournament for the Olympic Games for which only Pakistan and West Germany, winners and runners-up respectively at Los Angeles, and South Korea, the host country, are at present assured of their places.

Banks move to raise interest rate

By Joyce Whitehead

The banking world is hoping to generate an increase in the interest rate for junior hockey with two tournaments being held this weekend. Ten school teams will be at Ealing today for the Barclays Bank National Schools Championships, while the National Westminster Bank Under-21 Territorial tournament takes place at Coldham Common, Cambridge tomorrow and Sunday.

One school from each of the five territories, in the under-18 and under-16 sections, will be in action at Ealing, in what has become a very popular event, attracting as great a number of spectators as any of the All-England Women's Hockey Association's championships.

Millfield School, Somerset will be chasing a treble, having won the under-18 championship in 1985 and 1986.

At Coldham Common, five Territorial teams will compete in the up-and-coming under-21 age group. Already the national under-21 team, albeit with a few changes owing to the age limit, have played on three occasions this season

While all this is happening there is an under-18 training session, in Colchester, and on Sunday evening the names of the England under-18 squad to play in the international under-18 tournament in Largs in April will be announced.

YACHTING

North has not lost his touch

By Barry Pickthall

Acclaimed American sailor, Lowell North, now enjoying the fruits from the sale of his world-wide sailmaking business, is showing younger professionals competing in the SORC off Florida, America's principle offshore racing series, that he has lost none of the skills which won him an Olympic Gold medal and countless world championships.

After two events in this extended six-race series, North's latest 45ft Joubert/Nivelt-designed Sprint currently holds a six point lead in the overall standings over John McBride's, Farr 43 Advantage.

Principle interest however, centres on Dennis Conner's performance aboard the new Italian pocket-maxi, Il Moro di Venezia. The America's Cup winner, who is being crewed by a number of the Stars and Stripes team, has not been having it all his own way, having been headed in both early races by the similar-sized Stars and Stripes-designed, Obsession — crewed by the boys from America II, the New York Y.C's rival 12-metre which failed somewhat ignominiously to make the semi-final cut in those challenge trials.

"It's not war, but those New Yorkers certainly have a thing or to to prove," one onlooker said yesterday as crews were preparing their boats for the Ocean Triangle race starting from Miami tomorrow. Knowing Conner, he will not be satisfied with second-best, and will be looking hard for ways to boost the performance of his Frers-designed maxi before the series ends in Nassau on March 20.

Marsden causes a stir in Bombay

One aspect of the SORC that will give fresh heart to the Offshore Racing Council is the near doubling of entries at this year's event, thanks to the introduction of the International Measurement System which rates yachts against their predicted performance rather than their physical measurements.

The System, launched last year to provide a new lease of life to outdated racing yachts, has encouraged more than 30 owners back into the circuit, including Ted Hood with his famous one ton centreboarder, Robin, which dates back to 1974. Leading the fleet at present however, is the Ron Holland evergreen design Regardless, now 10 years old, which enjoys a three foot rating improvement under the new system.

- While Britain's Olympic hopefuls have been chalking up successes at international regattas in Japan and Cannes this week, Enterprise sailors Neil Marsden and Keith Crebbin from Blackpool and Fleetwood YC, have been causing something of a stir in India, mastering the hot but harsh conditions in Bombay by building up a large lead in the inaugural Commonwealth regatta.

Marsden, a former Mirror and GP14 champion, and one of nine Enterprise skippers to travel over for the event, has dominated the series so far by winning the first three races by large margins.

Boost Admiral's Cup challenge

- James Capel, the London stockbroking firm which became a major supporter of Britain's recent challenge for the America's Cup, is to sponsor the three boat UK team for the Admiral's Cup in a deal worth £60,000 to the Royal Ocean Racing Club.

The money will be used to pay for the services of a team manager, coach and training equipment, such as video cameras, to help raise competition in the trials to the professional levels set by the West Germans who have held the Cup for the past four years.

- Britain's Eddie Warden-Owen shared the lead in the Congressional Cup Match Race Championship at the end of the first day's racing off Long Beach, California, on Wednesday. The Solent-based sailor beat two local entrants, John Shadden and Barney Flam, to finish with a clean score alongside Australia's Iain Murray, Chris Dickson from New Zealand and Peter Isler, the man who navigated for Dennis Conner aboard Stars and Stripes.

The chief upset came after Murray lodged a protest after losing to Dave Perry in the opening match of the day, for sailing with the mainsail set on his Catalina 38 hoisted above the black band on the mast. The committee then reversed the result, leaving Perry, who won this event in 1983 and 84, tied in fifth place with the Soling gold medal winner, Robbie Haynes.

هكذا من الأصل

RACING: STRONG ROYAL FLAVOUR TO TODAY'S GRAND MILITARY GOLD CUP

Maori Venture can assert his authority over Sandown rivals

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

Ridden again by Gerald Oxley, who has got on so famously with him for the past three years, Special Cargo will be trying to win the *Horse and Hound* Grand Military Gold Cup an unprecedented fourth time at Sandown Park today.

Well that the Queen Mother's old favourite should go following that heartening run around Newbury behind Burannpour last month, I still feel that the odds are stacked against him gaining his eighth victory on the Esher track.

For, on a point of handicapping, today's race looks at the mercy of **Maori Venture**. Although he may not be everyone's idea of the ideal conveyance for an amateur, the fact remains that Jim Joel's 11-year-old stands head and shoulders above Burnt Oak, Special Cargo and Knock Hill, his principal rivals, on form.

Anyone who doubts that assertion need only refer to the *Racing Calendar* to be reassured. In future handicaps, Maori Venture, who has already won the Mandarin Chase at Newbury this season, besides finishing third in the Hennessy Gold Cup there, is set to give 16lb to Burnt Oak, 18lb to Special Cargo and 19lb to Knock Hill. Yet today they will all be carrying the same weight.

Royal interest is not confined to Special Cargo because Princess Anne will again be riding Cnoc Na Cuille, who gave her such an exhilarating ride around Kempton recently.

Otherwise at Sandown it should pay to follow Steve Smith Eccles riding **Polyfemus** (2.0) and **Sunny Slave** (3.35) for Nicky Henderson.

With the weights for the EBF Balveni Malt Whisky Handicap Hurdle having gone up 6lb overnight, Sunny Slave, an easy winner at Stratford last time, receives 11lb from Beech Road. The latter was beaten 12 lengths by Mandavi, a stable companion of Sunny Slave, at Newbury last time.

Following that highly encouraging first run over today's course and distance three weeks ago when he was beaten only a length by Comandante, Polyfemus is napped to open his own account in the first division of the Lilac Novices' Hurdle.

With **Macroom**, Baies, High Performance, Not Arcadian, Steeple View and Vulgan Warrior all standing their ground the second division looks much more open. A good run by Polyfemus earlier will highlight the chance of Steeple View who finished third in that same race at Sandown. However, on balance, Macroom must be the form horse, having finished third to Bonanza Boy at Chepstow since twice winning easily at Lingfield.

At Carlisle, I can foresee Phil Tuck landing a double for Gordon Richards on **Tullamarine** (3.30) and **Bessacarr Boy** (4.0). But their stable companion, Tartan Torchlight, looks likely to be thwarted by **Burri Walk** in the initial EBF Cockermouth Handicap Hurdle.

The Last Prince, who like Tullamarine had to forgo a good opportunity at Catterick on Wednesday because of the inclement weather, can also make up for lost time by winning the Binbrook Handicap Chase at Market Rasen.

The Bet With The Tote Novices' Chase should go to **Whats What**, provided he does not make the sort of mistake that brought about his downfall at Doncaster.

● **Brunton Park**, set to concede only 7lb to his rivals, is a confident selection for the Duke of Gloucester Memorial Trophy at Sandown today (Brian Beel writes). Were this a handicap, he would probably be asked to concede two stone or more.

Gerald Oxley and Special Cargo, who will be seeking their fourth consecutive Grand Military Gold Cup success at Sandown Park this afternoon (Photograph: Alan Johnson)

POINT-TO-POINT

Observe's example highlights loophole

By Brian Beel

As he is fully entitled to under current regulations, Fred Winter will once again make a mockery of any concept that hunter chasing is an amateur sport when he attempts to gain his third Christies Foxhunters' Chase success in eight years at Cheltenham next Thursday.

There is no doubt that Observe satisfied the statutory requirements to earn his qualification of being classed, so late in his career, as a hunter when, last autumn, he turned out with the East Essex Hunt.

Observe was sent to Brian McMath's livery yard and hunted by his wife, Jane, and stable groom, Nicola Paris, in order to obtain a certificate signed by the Master of Foxhounds, enabling him to race in hunter chases.

A year ago today, Observe ran in the Gold Cup, having previously won three races over the course in top class company. Among the entries for next week's race are many who, at that time, were still graduating from point-to-points.

All of these have considerable local following with interest being shown in the progress of both horse and rider to the stage where they are good enough to compete in the premier hunter chase.

To their owners, it must be most disheartening to have to take on a Gold Cup horse at level terms and, to boot, a horse which has never been qualified to run in a point-to-point.

Charlie Brooks, Winter's assistant, will, if he is fit in time, be in the saddle. That Observe is owned by a company (R E A Bott Ltd), trained by a licensed trainer and ridden by one who earns his living by preparing horses for racing, all fall within the rules of this supposedly amateur sport. All parties are justified in taking advantage.

Those who have the sport at heart, however, would like to see these rules changed. The addition of the phrase "have won an open point-to-point and is currently qualified to run in point-to-points" would help to ensure no further repetition of the professional encroachment.

Lean Ar Aghaidh cut to 16-1 for National

By Alan Lee

Stan Mellor, who has never won the Grand National either as jockey or trainer, unveiled his strongest Aintree contestant for years at Wincanton yesterday.

Lean Ar Aghaidh, returning after a 10-week rest, took the Baron Blakeney Handicap Chase by an emphatic 12 lengths and Corals immediately cut his National odds to 16-1 from 25-1.

Mellor said: "I fancied him today once the ground had dried up. I'm tempted to run him in the Ritz Club Chase at Cheltenham next week before going to Liverpool, where he will provide my best chance of winning the race since Royal Mail, who was third in 1981."

Mercy Rimell, whose Solidasarock won the opening maiden hurdle, also has Aintree in mind for Celtic Chief, a leading fancy for next week's Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham until disappointing at Haydock on Saturday.

"He couldn't handle the heavy ground," explained Mrs Rimell. "I won't be taking him to Cheltenham but he isn't finished for the season and could very well go to Liverpool."

There are no such grand plans for Royal Judgement, winner of the Hine Cognac Hunters' Chase. The 14-year-old was winning for the thirtieth time but his owner, Lady Rootes, said: "He's too old now to run at courses like Cheltenham."

● Lorcan Wyer has been booked by his former employer, Homer Scott, to ride L'Ane Rouge in the Sun Alliance Novice Hurdle on Wednesday. Wyer had his first Cheltenham Festival success as an amateur last year on the Scott-trained Omerta in the National Hunt Chase.

SANDOWN PARK

Selections

By Mandarin

2.00 POLYFEMUS (nap).
2.30 Bajan Sunshine.
3.05 Maori Venture.
3.35 Sunny Slave.
4.05 Brunton Park.
4.35 Macroom.

By Michael Seely

3.35 Private Views. 4.35 MACROOM (nap).

Going: good

2.0 LILAC NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £1,963: 2m) (13 runners)

101	01	CANFORD PALM 25 (D,S) (Mrs M Cobham) F Winter 6-11-4	P Scudamore	81
103	0-0	ANOTHER TROUP 13 (R Townsend) R Townsend 5-11-0	Mr D Townsend (7)	—
104	-0	BALLESTEROS 107 (D Ward-Smith) P Bowden 6-11-0	R Dennis	—
106	0	CHERRY BRAVE 31 (Anne Duchess of Westminster) R Francis 6-11-0	S J O'Neill	—
109	0UP-04	EYETRAP 21 (J Watts) P Harris 6-11-0	R Strange	—
111	2/	MARMALADE MAN 1408 (P Burnand) J King 10-11-0	S McNeill	—
112	P/F04-20	MILLERD HOUSE 28 (A Darlington) A J Wilson 6-11-0	K Mooney	86
113	00	MY KIKALONG 18 (Alton Ltd) J Gifford 5-11-0	R Rowe	—
114	0	NICOGHAN 86 (D Barons) D Barons 5-11-0	P Nicholls	—
115	2	POLYFEMUS 21 (G Johnson) N Henderson 5-11-0	S Smith Eccles	● 99
116	0F00	SALMON RUN 21 (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 6-11-0	R Dunwoody	85
121		CARMINDA (D Montagu) N Henderson 5-10-9	J White	—
125	00000	GRECIAN BUST 21 (D Hodges) D Elsworth 4-10-1	R Arnott (4)	—

BETTING: 13-8 Polyfemus, 5-2 Canford Palm, 5-1 Carminda, 8-1 My Kikalong, 10-1 Salmon Run, 12-1 Nichoghan, 14-1 others

1986: MEETING ABANDONED – FROST

FORM CANFORD PALM confirmed the promise of a Newbury 5th to Robin Goodfellow when (11-1) a 2l winner from Monnta (11-1) at Nottingham (2m, £1316, good to soft, Feb 17, 23 ran). MILLERD HOUSE disappointed in a big field at Newbury last time, previously (11-0) a decent 4l 2nd to The A Train (11-0) at Warwick (2m, £1076, good to soft, Dec 27, 14 ran). NICOGHAN (11-0) should find some improvement on a never nearer 8th to Ruby Flight (10-12) at Worcester (2m, £1159, heavy, Dec 17, 20 ran). POLYFEMUS (11-0) made an excellent debut over course and distance when a length 2nd to Comandante (11-0) with SALMON RUN (11-0) 13l back in 5th (2m, £3110, good to soft, Feb 20, 18 ran).
Selection: POLYFEMUS

2.30 BMW SERIES NOVICE CHASE (Qualifier: £3,376: 2m 4f 68yd) (14 runners)

201	F31800	HIGH BLEND 9 (S) (B Wright) P Bailey 6-11-10	S Morshead	82
203	0/031-PU	AISLING GEAL 13 (G) (E Kirtland) D Gandolfo 7-11-6	M Williams	—
204	0-23P41	BAJAN SUNSHINE 20 (B,F,G,S) (P Green) F Winter 8-11-6	P Scudamore	97
206	000P4	DOUBLE UP 97 (Mrs P Hargreaves) Mrs P Hargreaves 10-11-6	Miss G Armytage (4)	—
207	1101/00	IRISH LORD 20 (S) (W Gredley) M Pipe 6-11-6	M Perrett	77
208	412124	KINGSWOOD KITCHENS 14 (F,G) (J Joseph) D Elsworth 7-11-6	J Frost	88
209	13-00U4	MISTER HARTIGAN 13 (S) (Mrs E Ellis) J Edwards 7-11-6	T Morgan	54
210	PF0	PAUPERS GOLD 61 (Mrs P Starkey) J Webber 6-11-6	G Mernagh	—
211	00100/P	PELION 71 (G,S) (Mrs A Garrett) J King 7-11-6	S McNeill	—
212	110/0-	PITPAN'S GLORY 461 (F,G) (Mrs R Lacy) J Gifford 10-11-6	R Rowe	—
214	00-00F	RATH WONDER 31 (Anne Duchess of Westminster) R Francis 6-11-6	S J O'Neill	—
216	0010/PF-	RUGGED SPIRIT 370 (F) (S Turton) R Frost 7-11-6	J Frost	—
217	10-0032	STIKIT'S BROTHER 8 (G,S) (Mrs A Alhamrani) Miss E Sneyd 9-11-6	B Powell	● 99
218	10-43FF	TARCONEY 77 (BF,G) (R Whitde) P Cundell 7-11-6	R Strange	83

BETTING: 7-4 Bajan Sunshine, 100-30 Kingswood Kitchens, 9-2 Mister Hartigan, 6-1 Stikit's Brother, 8-1 Irish Lord, 10-1 Tarconey, 12-1 others

FORM BAJAN SUNSHINE, high class hurdler winning first race over fences when (11-3) all out to beat Bowden (11-10) 2l at Windsor (2m 5f, £2349, good to soft, Feb 21, 17 ran) a race in which IRISH LORD (11-3), prominent until blundering 6 out, finished 21L 5th. KINGSWOOD KITCHENS, never got into the race last time, previously (11-1) on chasing debut was a 12l runner up to Against the Grain (11-0) at Kempton (2m 4f, £2058, good to soft, Nov 20, 11 ran), with DOUBLE UP (11-1) pulled up after a series of mistakes. MISTER HARTIGAN (11-0) was about 10l 4th to Panto Prince (11-0) at Kempton last time (2m, £3853, soft, Feb 28, 7 ran) and would have finished closer but for a bad mistake out in the country. STIKIT'S BROTHER stayed on without threatening easy winner Salehurst last time, previously (11-3) was not disgraced to finish 23l 3rd to the very useful Playschool (11-7) in a listed race at Chepstow (2m 4f, £8835, soft, Feb 21, 8 ran).
Selection: BAJAN SUNSHINE

3.5 HORSE & HOUND GRAND MILITARY GOLD CUP (Amateurs: £3,869: 3m 118yd) (15 runners)

301	411110	BURNT OAK 28 (CD,F,G,S) (Brig C Harvey) D Nicholson 11-12-7	P Nicholson	82
302	41013P	KNOCK HILL 20 (G,S) (P Thompson) J Webber 11-12-7	Maj T Moore	83
303	0331F0	MAORI VENTURE 30 (G,S) (H Joel) A Turnell 11-12-7	Maj M W Sample	● 99
304	11P/13-0	SPECIAL CARGO 28 (CD,F,G,S) (Queen Elizabeth) F Walwyn 14-12-7	G Oxley	80
305	2PP30-4	CNOC NA CUILLE 13 (F,G) (Mrs Anne Phillips) D Nicholson 10-12-0	Anne Phillips	54
306	PP3P4P	DARGAI 15 (G,S) (Maj J Urquhart) R Armytage 11-12-0	Capt J Beardsall	59
307	1233/30	LORENTINO 32 (C,F,G,S) (Lord Leverhulme) R Francis 10-12-0	C Sample	85
309	030404	PRIANSKO 20 (Mrs J Slade) J Dasque France, 6-12-0	Garde J P Scomparin	—
311	F20-042	TURN BLUE 21 (CD,F,G,S) (Maj E O'F Wilson) R Champion 8-12-0	A Wilson	80
312	224/012	WYFORD 8 (BF,S) (Anne Duchess of Westminster) T Forster 10-12-0	Lt Col C Price	50
313	21-3P04	WAIT FOR ME 10 (F) (P Wright) N Lee-Judson 9-11-9	Maj C Moore	50
314	3/20U04-	LIGHT DEMON 321 (B Munro-Wilson) B Munro-Wilson 10-11-7	Capt C Lane	—
316	00P	TREASURE'S RAG 32 (B Fearn) P Butler 10-11-7	Maj P Holdsworth	—
317	U0P/	WHITE PAPER 729 (R Elwell) R Elwell 15-11-7	R Elwell	—
318	1F/	NAUGHTY NIECE 657 (F) (J Newton-Taylor) J Newton-Taylor 11-11-2	Miss H Knight	—

BETTING: 15-8 Maori Venture, 7-2 Special Cargo, Knock Hill, 7-1 Burnt Oak, 12-1 Cnoc Na Cuille, 14-1 Turn Bluer, Wyford, 16-1 others

1986: SPECIAL CARGO 13-12-7 G Oxley (Evens fav) F Walwyn 8 ran. (This race was run on the following day's card)

FORM BURNT OAK (10-9) and SPECIAL CARGO (11-3) were both well beaten by Burannpour (10-12) at Newbury (3m, £3293, good to soft, Feb 13, 12 ran) last time. Previously, BURNT OAK (10-2) completed a 4-timer with a 1½l defeat of Wayward Lad (12-0) at Doncaster (3m 2f, £5208, good, Dec 13, 5 ran). SPECIAL CARGO'S five course and distance wins include victory in this race for the last three years. Last year (12-7) he beat Prydel (11-7) a fast finishing neck (£2509, good, Mar 8, 8 ran) with BURNT OAK (12-0) behind when pulled up. KNOCK HILL (10-0) stays very well and was seen to best advantage over 4m at Cheltenham (£4612, soft, Dec 31, 11 ran) beating Greenbank Park (10-0) 12l. MAORI VENTURE is only just below top class and proved himself as good as ever when (11-3) a 5l winner from Simon Legree (11-3) at Newbury (3m 2f 82y, £5897, good to soft, Jan 3, 6 ran). TURN BLUE (11-7) tried to make all of the running when 1½l 2nd to Southern Prince (10-12) at Fakenham (3m, £2030, good, Feb 20, 8 ran). WYFORD (11-0) was far from disgraced when 3l 2nd to Gerami (11-5) at Ludlow last time (2m 4f, £2039, good, Mar 5, 16 ran).
Selection: MAORI VENTURE

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 0-0432 TIMESFORM 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F-fell. P-pulled up. U-unseated rider. B-brought down. S-slipped up. R-refused). Horse's name. Days since last outing. (B-blinkers. V-visor. H-hood. E-Eyeshield. C-course winner. D-distance winner. CD-course and distance winner. BF-beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F-firm, good to firm, hard. G-good. S-soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.35 EBF BALVENIE MALT WHISKY HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,045: 2m 5f 75yd) (13 runners)

402	2-31F44	SEAGRAM 8 (F,G,S) (Maincrest Ltd) D Barons 7-11-7	P Nicholls	—
404	010-4F2	BEECH ROAD 28 (BF,S) (T Geake) G Balding 6-11-1	K Mooney	95
405	2P1030	WHARRY BURN 21 (S) (Mrs G McFarran) I Dudgeon 6-11-0	R Linley	96
406	21-4P02	PRIVATE VIEWS 16 (F,G) (Mrs G Bronfman) N Gaselee 6-11-0	P Scudamore	● 99
407	12404/0-	HILL-STREET-BLUES 476 (F,S) (D Crates) J Fox 7-9-10	S Moore	—
409	P0410P	WARNER FOR LEISURE 76 (C,F,G,S) (T Warner Sports) D Gandolfo 9-10-9	M Williams	93
410	F1/P0-14	MASTER CONE 20 (S) (M Read) K White 10-10-8	R Beggan	94
413	1F00-00	CHEMIST BROKER 21 (F,S) (Food Brokers Ltd) P Haynes 7-10-4	D Gallagher (7)	93
414	F02101	SUNNY SLAVE 13 (G,S) (R Parish) N Henderson 6-10-4	S Smith Eccles	98
416	0200P0	TIGHT TURN 74 (F,G,S) (R Frost) R Frost 8-10-1	J Frost	95
417	0-2332P	KNOBI OBI 14 (P Hannen) Miss E Sneyd 8-10-0	B Powell	93
420	03-0	H AND K HATTRICK 74 (E Kirtland) D Gandolfo 8-10-0	T Woolley (7)	87
423	3/PFP00-	KINGMON'S GIRL 332 (J King) J Long 10-10-0	Mr J Poulton (7)	—

BETTING: 5-2 Beech Road, 3-1 Private Views, 7-2 Sunny Slave, 6-1 Master Cone, 8-1 Wharry Burn, 10-1 Seagram, 14-1 others

FORM WHARRY BURN disappointed last time but would not be far away here if reproducing a (11-2) 4l beating of Whither Goest Thou (11-3) at Fontwell with TIGHT TURN (10-11) 10½l back in 6th and BEECH ROAD (10-3) a faller at the last when looking all over the winner. (2m 2f, £2557, good to soft, Dec 29, 9 ran). BEECH ROAD has since had the opportunity to redeem himself and though starting slowly ran well (10-1) to be 12l 2nd to Mandavi (10-8) at Newbury (2m 4f, £3038, good to soft, Feb 13, 18 ran). PRIVATE VIEWS produced best performance for a long time on latest start when (10-13) a length 2nd to Pearl Run (11-2) at Warwick and trainer does well at this course (2m5f, £2385, good, Feb 25, 22 ran). SUNNY SLAVE is in very good form at present and was not hard pressed (11-0) to beat Maujendor (10-12) 5l at Stratford (2m 6f, £2203, soft, Feb 28, 18 ran). KNOBI OBI steps out of novice company here and best effort in that grade was (11-4) a 4¾l 3rd to Bronze Effigy (11-1) at Towcester (2m 5f, £685, good to soft, Dec 13, 16 ran).
Selection: PRIVATE VIEWS

4.5 DUKE OF GLOUCESTER HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,176: 3m 118yd) (11 runners)

501	112144-	BRUNTON PARK 343 (F,G,S) (B Munro-Wilson) Mrs M Dickinson 9-13-0	B Munro-Wilson	● 99
503	2240P2/	BANNORAN 735 (B,S) (Lord Vestey) Lord Vestey 11-12-7	Miss H Knight	—
504	F0	COOLCOTTS 216 (Lt-Col R Symonds) R Symonds 11-12-7	—	—
505	P/PP004-	LEXADOR 347 (S) (Royal Regiment of Artillery) C Moore 9-12-7	Maj C Moore (7)	54
506	P4F40/P-	LUCKY FRIDAY 298 (J Digby) J Digby 12-12-7	J Digby	—
507	313/P-0F	OPTIMUM 13 (F,G,S) (P Nicholson) D Nicholson 9-12-7	NON-RUNNER	—
508	FP/4P-0	OWEN SHERRY 15 (Capt W Bulwer-Long) W Bulwer-Long 10-12-7	S Ballard (7)	—
509	0P0/3FP-	PENNY ROYAL 420 (Lord V Cecil) O Sherwood 8-12-7	G Oxley (7)	—
510	4U0-P0F	PRYDEL 14 (B) (Maj E O'F Wilson) R Champion 9-12-7	Capt J Beardsall (7)	—
511	FFPP2-0	TEN CHERRIES 25 (CD,F,G,S) (M Bell) Mrs M Rimell 12-12-7	M Bell (7)	68
512	PP00-00	UNDER-RATED 20 (F,G,S) (K Clark) K Clark 9-12-7	K Clark (7)	—

BETTING: 1-3 Brunton Park, 13-2 Ten Cherries, 10-1 Bannoran, 12-1 Penny Royal, 14-1 Lexador, 16-1 others

FORM BRUNTON PARK, successful in handicap company in 1985/6, was seen at his best when (10-4) beating Cybrandian (11-0) 4L at Ascot in the Spring (3m, £15686, good, 8 ran). TEN CHERRIES (12-7) beat BANNORAN (12-7) a length over this course and distance 2 seasons ago (3m1f, £1151, good, 12 ran). TEN CHERRIES' jumping was moderate last season but he ran well enough first time out this year when a (12-8) 27l 5th to Beamwam (12-0) at Nottingham (2m 6f, £680, good to soft, Feb 16, 8 ran). OWEN SHERRY was the runner-up in 2 point-to-points this year prior to a somewhat disappointing reappearance under Rules when (11-9) a distant 5th to Romulex (11-9) at Folkestone (2m4f, £830, soft, Feb 25, 16 ran). PRYDEL has not shown best for some time but at this meeting last year was a (11-7) neck 2nd to Special Cargo (12-7) in the Grand Military Gold Cup (3m 118y, £2609, good, Mar 8, 8 ran). Selection: BRUNTON PARK

4.35 LILAC NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £2,040: 2m) (21 runners)

602	42-113	MACROOM 20 (D,S) (Mrs M Tindall) S Mellor 5-11-8	G Landau (4)	● 99
603	0P	AIR BROKER 21 (Food Brokers Ltd) P Haynes 6-11-0	A Webb	—
604	03	BAIES 30 (Mrs B Samuel) F Winter 5-11-0	P Scudamore	93
606	0-0	BIETSCHHORN HUT 15 (A Clapperton) D Gandolfo 5-11-0	S Smith Eccles	—
607	00	BUCKSHEE BOY 3 (J Pilkington) J Spearing 5-11-0	NON-RUNNER	—
608	FFF0P0	CASTILLORE LAD 8 (C Pike) J Long 7-11-0	Leesa Long (7)	—
611	000	DANNY'S LUCK 18 (F Clegg) D Barons 5-11-0	P Nicholls	82
612	000-00	DIAMOND DIGGER 14 (Mrs V Tory) D Nicholson 5-11-0	R Dunwoody	80
614	00	GAY MOORE 77 (Miss C Beasley) M Robinson 5-11-0	—	—
615	B30F	HIGH HAM BLUES 21 (D Crates) J Fox 5-11-0	S Moore	85
616	4	HIGH PERFORMANCE 36 (T Ludlow) F Winter 5-11-0	B de Haan	80
617	0-	HJANI 356 (G Walsh-Waring) G Prest 6-11-0	P Croucher	—
619	0000	LE MODESTY 21 (R Smale) A Moore 5-11-0	G Moore	78
621	P0	MARSOVIN 18 (Capt F Tyrwhitt-Drake) J Gifford 5-11-0	—	—
622	2-0	NOT ARCADIAN 35 (R Allsop) J Old 6-11-0	—	82
623	04	PRIVATEPERFORMANCE 25 (K Balfour) P Haynes 5-11-0	R Rowe	72*
626	P	RAPPAHANNOCK 118 (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 5-11-0	R Strange	—
627	0	ROYAL GOSSIP 25 (J Sumner) Mrs I McKie 5-11-0	S Morshead	66
630	03	STEEPLE VIEW 21 (Mrs C Heath) O Sherwood 6-11-0	S Sherwood	89
632	000-00	THE FROZEN PADRE 10 (Mrs S Cole) J Webber 6-11-0	NON-RUNNER	—
633	2	VULGAN WARRIOR 23 (Mrs M Wilson) A J Wilson 5-11-0	H Davies	79

BETTING: 7-4 Macroom, 11-4 Vulgan Warrior, 4-1 Baies, 13-2 High Performance, 10-1 Steeple View, 12-1 Diamond Digger, 14-1 others

FORM MACROOM confirmed himself as a very useful novice when (11-10) finishing 12¾l 3rd to the top class Bonanza Boy (11-13) at Chepstow (2m4f, £7026, soft, Feb 21, 13 ran). Previously had (11-9) beat Always Dangerous (11-3) in good style at Lingfield by 12l with HIGH PERFORMANCE (11-3) 16½l back in 4th on debut (2m, £685, good to soft, Feb 5, 21 ran). BAIES showed improved form when (11-4) 11½l 3rd to Christian Schad (11-8) at Ascot and should continue on the upgrade as he gains experience (2m, £3141, good, Feb 11, 18 ran). STEEPLE VIEW comes from a stable in form and ran with great promise when (11-0) 3½l 3rd to highly regarded Comandante (11-0) here with LE MODESTY (11-0) a distant 7th and HIGH HAM BLUES (11-0) a faller, (2m, £3110, good to soft, Feb 20, 18 ran). VULGAN WARRIOR showed potential in NH Flat races before making a most satisfactory hurdling debut (10-9) to be 4l 2nd to Hightown Fontana (10-9) at Worcester (2m, £2250, good to soft, Feb 18, 21 ran). Selection: MACROOM

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runner	Per Cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per Cent
N Gaselee	9	28	32.1	S Smith Eccles	22	85	25.9
D Elsworth	14	69	20.3	R Rowe	22	115	19.1
F Walwyn	17	90	18.9	H Davies	14	84	16.7
T Forster	10	55	18.2	R Dunwoody	10	64	15.6
G Balding	10	58	17.2	P Scudamore	18	118	15.3
S Mellor	7	41	17.1				

Only qualifiers

MARKET RASEN

Selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Godounov.
2.45 The Last Prince.
3.15 Kylemakill.
3.45 Whats What.
4.15 Abersing.
4.45 *Sip Of Orange.*

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.45 WHATS WHAT.

Going: good to soft

2.15 CRANWELL SELLING HURDLE (£681: 2m) (15 runners)

1	00F020	MOONDAWN 22 (D,F) (Mrs B Ramsden) K Stone 6-12-0	A Stringer	93
2	00/PP00	BANNA'S RETREAT 71 (B,D,S) (F Barlow) Mrs S Austin 6-11-9	D Wilkinson	—
3	0-00F30	CANONBURY FLYER 44 (BF) (Mrs M Doohan) G Moore 6-11-7	—	73
4	330-000	LAMBOURN BOY 25 (C Holmes) C Holmes 6-11-7	K Burke (4)	70
5	C00-C02	PORTLY 158 (M Lawrenson) C Spares 6-11-7	N Carson (7)	75
6	0-00	WATCH TOWER 127 (S Glazer) R Curtis 5-11-7	K Traylor (7)	—
7	31UF00	FRIENDLY BEE 29 (D,S) (C Hague) B Richmond 5-11-2	P Corrigan	82
8	000	LITTLE-MAUREEN 30 (R Brookes) J P Smith 6-11-2	T Pinfield (7)	—
10	10	GODOUNOV 111 (D,G) (Excite Ltd) W Storey 4-11-1	A Carroll	● 99
12	P0	CRICKET HOUSE 46 (B) (Mrs N Parish) J Parish 4-10-8	M Ahern (4)	—
13	PP	DEAR BOB 50 (M Tindall) M Pipe 4-10-8	J Lower (4)	—
15	PP	MASTER MUSIC 67 (Mrs G Walford) T Walford 4-10-8	S Keightley	—
16	P000	STRONGARM 14 (B) (R Dods) R Dods 4-10-8	S Woods (7)	83
17	P0000	KNOCKALENA 17 (W Easom) H Fleming 4-10-8	P Farrell (4)	—
18	P	SING LUCKY SING 44 (S Molyneux) G Moore 4-10-3	—	—

BETTING: 9-4 Godounov, 7-2 Moondawn, 9-2 Portly, 5-1 Canonbury Flyer, 10-1 Watch Tower, 12-1 Friendly Bee, 14-1 others

1986: DESCARTER 4-10-8 S Charlton (2-1) M W Easterby 14 ran

2.45 BINBROOK HANDICAP CHASE (£2,691: 2m 5f) (6 runners)

2	20-P142	THE LAST PRINCE 45 (C,D,G,S) (Snailwell Stud) M H Easterby 10-11-12	L Wyer	● 99
4	400010/	BRAVE HUSSAR 661 (F,G,S) (S Glazer) R Curtis 9-11-4	K Traylor (7)	—
8	273F0U	MELEREK 16 (F,G,S) (Mrs J Jordan) G Moore 12-10-5	—	97
10	03F043	TIERENEE 4 (F,S) (R Causer) T Bill 9-10-4	—	98
13	043230	GREENORE PRIDE 23 (G,S) (A Baird Tennis Courts) P Burgoyne 10-10-0	L Harvey (4)	96
14	P00U0-0	NEW KAYBER 9 (G) (Mrs K Jacobs) Mrs G Jones 8-10-0	R Chapman (4)	90

BETTING: 11-10 The Last Prince, 5-2 Tierenee, 5-1 Melerek, 7-1 Greenore Pride, 12-1 Brave Hussar, 25-1 New Kayber

1986: (3m) THE LAST PRINCE 9-10-0 J J O'Neill (11-4 fav) M H Easterby 8 ran

3.15 SCUNTHORPE ROD MILL HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,372: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

1	000104	COMEDY FAIR 7 (CD,G,S) (Mrs M Nowell) M H Easterby 7-12-6	L Wyer	85
3	102-33F	RYECROFT 20 (B,CD,G,S) (Mrs K Real) Jimmy Fitzgerald 9-11-7	M Dwyer	79
8	030	KYLEMAKILL 20 (J Heaton) Mrs S Oliver 6-10-7	J Duggan	● 99
10	0-00000	FORTY GRAND 43 (G) (N Howley) P Charlton 6-10-3	K Cotter (7)	—
11	P-P000F	POONA EXPRESS 9 (C,S) (W Sellers) J Parkes 6-10-0	—	80
12	000-302	GODFATHER'S GIFT 30 (F) (Mrs J Osborne) Mrs D Haine 5-10-0	J J Quinn	84
13	0000-00	HEALTH N HAPPINESS 31 (D,S) (Mrs B Curley) B Curley 8-10-0	D Murphy	81
14	043	PICADILLY LORD 43 (P Michael) G Hutter 6-10-0	S Keightley	84
15	433300	THE LODGE PRINCE 13 (V) (Quakker Hotels Ltd) K Stone 8-10-0	J D Davies (4)	82
16	404F00	PADYKIN 14 (CD,F,G) (S Freeman) M Chapman 7-10-0	S Mitchell (7)	84
17	400000	NORTHERN RULER 14 (G) (R Whiting) H Whiting 5-10-0	S Woods (7)	77
18	4000-P0	THE CAPO FAMIGLIA 27 (Mrs B Curley) B Curley 7-10-0	D Murphy	78
20	P00	REGAL TOUCH 17 (S) (R Tansley) Mrs S Austin 8-10-0	D Wilkinson	—

BETTING: 5-2 Comedy Fair, 100-30 Picadilly Lord, 9-2 Ryecroft, 6-1 The Lodge Prince, 8-1 Godfather's Gift, Kylemakill, 12-1 others.

1986: HIERONYMOUS 5-10-10 P Leech (7-1) M Pipe 14 ran

3.45 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICE CHASE (£1,833: 3m) (14 runners)

2	12U12F	WHATS WHAT 11 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Bousfield) B Bousfield 8-11-3	—	● 99
3	1UUR0	RENSHAW WOOD 14 (F) (Mrs M Dawson) P Beaumont 7-10-12	P A Farrell (4)	71
8	0/F30-00	JUNGLE JIM 16 (B,G,S) (C Trainer) K Morgan 9-10-10	K Ryan (7)	—
10	0300-03	MOSSMORRAN 17 (B,S) (D Armstrong) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-10-10	M Dwyer	70
11	FP/U0P0	NEW TIMES 314 (W Hayes) J Leigh 6-10-10	—	—
12	1210/B3	PACIFISTE 46 (S) (M Hellyer) Mrs M Dickinson 7-10-0	G McCourt	61
14	0/3-4	RIVER SAINT 21 (B Byford) B Byford 11-10-10	—	70
15	00-00UP	RIVERSFIELD PARK 11 (Transplant Ltd) C Holmes 6-10-10	A Jones	—
20	PP-P0U	SIR HECTOR 11 (C Ellis) S Mellor 8-10-10	Mr T Mitchell (7)	—
21	40F044	SUDBROOKE PARK 11 (S) (C Hague) B Richmond 9-10-10	L Wyer	78
22	0P0F00	TEPYLON 368 (G,S) (G Hoolahan) P Charlton 8-10-10	K Cotter (7)	—
24	04004-P	VICTORY BAY 11 (Mrs G Jones) Mrs G Jones 8-10-10	R Chapman (4)	—
26	0/	OVER THE MOUNTAIN (A F Budge Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-10-5	J J Quinn	—
27	4F/0P04	SCARLET COON 22 (Mrs C Pinney) C Pinney 11-10-5	—	—

BETTING: 15-8 What's What, 5-2 Mossmorran, 7-2 Pacifiste, 13-2 River Saint, 10-1 Renshaw Wood, 12-1 others.

1986: No Corresponding Race

4.15 WADDINGTON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£1,660: 2m) (7 runners)

1	134P0F	JUST ALICK 17 (CD,F,G,S) (S Childs) M H Easterby 8-12-0	—	90
2	P-30132	ABERSING 16 (D,F,G,S) (D Todd) D Todd 12-10-7	—	93
3	101333	MANSTON MARAUDER 14 (C,D,F,G,S) (M Smith) P Hedger 11-10-3	Penny Ffitch-Heyes	● 99
5	0001/0F	WHO'S DRIVING 101 (D,S) (Mrs B Curley) B Curley 12-10-0	T Leech (3)	—
6	P33B0P	KING OF TYRE 11 (G) (W Sellers) J Parkes 10-10-0	—	87
8	U0000U	BLACK EARL 21 (F,S) (A Greig) I Wardle 10-10-0	K Townend	78
9	0-034F0	BILLILOV 16 (F) (W Love) K Bridgwater 6-10-0	K Ryan	88

BETTING: 2-1 Manston Marauder, 11-4 Abersing, 4-1 Just Alick, 6-1 Billilov, 10-1 Who's Driving, 20-1 Black Earl, King Of Tyre.

1986: SILVER ACE 7-11-4 J Lower (8-11 fav) M Pipe 7 ran

4.45 SWINDERBY NOVICE HURDLE (Mares: £1,637: 2m) (10 runners)

1	1110	SIP OF ORANGE 29 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs R Haggie) Mrs G Reveley 5-11-8	M Dwyer	● 99
2	0PP	BEBE HATTIE 9 (Mrs M Beaumont) P Beaumont 7-11-0	P Farrell (4)	—
6	P	GRACEFUL HANNAH 16 (D Ramage) D Chapman 5-11-0	P Niven	—
10	0F-0004	ROSIE CONE 17 (V) (M Smith) Mrs P Sly 5-11-0	M Bastard	89
11	0-0010P	SHAKIRA GROVE 9 (D,S) (C Hague) M Chapman 6-11-0	S Mitchell (7)	85
13	02/023-4	SILVER KEYS 15 (M Pipe) M Pipe 7-11-0	J Lower (4)	93
15	042213	ANGEL DUST 15 (V,D,BF,S) (G Whorton) K Stone 4-10-8	A Stringer	96
17	00	BOXIT 14 (Proven Hatch Holdings) J Mackie 4-10-4	J Harris	—
18		COME ON KATE (Mrs E Wilson) D Dale 4-10-4	S Keightley	—
20		NORTHERN FLING (Mrs N Parish) J Parish 4-10-4	M Ahern (4)	—

BETTING: Evens Sip Of Orange, 3-1 Angel Dust, 6-1 Silver Keys, 8-1 Rosie Cone, 10-1 Shakira Grove, 14-1 others.

1986: BUCK UP 4-10-4 J J O'Neill (5-1) M H Easterby 19 ran

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per Cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per Cent
M Pipe	6	10	60.0	M Dwyer	15	80	18.8
Mrs M Dickinson	13	24	54.2				
M H Easterby	29	100	29.0				
G Moore	8	33	24.2				
Jimmy Fitzgerald	30	132	22.7				
J Parkes	5	30	16.7				

Only qualifier

● Galway Blaze's participation in next week's Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup hinges on a weekend workout at Lambourn. His trainer, Nicky Henderson, said yesterday: "Provided he works well over the weekend and the ground at Cheltenham isn't too bad – at the moment it's good – he will take his chance." Currently quoted at 14-1 with the sponsors. Galway Blaze will be ridden by Steve Smith Eccles.

CARLISLE

Selections

By Mandarin

2.0 Galadine. 2.30 Dr Guillotine. 3.0 Burri Walk. 3.30 Tullamarine. 4.0 Bessacarr Boy. 4.30 Green Gorse. 5.0 Cherry Crest.

Michael Seely's selection: 2.0 Galadine.

Going: good to soft

2.0 WIGTON NOVICE HURDLE (£685: 2m 330yd) (20 runners)

1	000/	BOUNTEOUS SPIRIT 989 J Townson 7-11-1	—
2		BRANDY HAMBRO C Parker 6-11-1	K Doolan
4	0003	GALADINE 7 M H Easterby 5-11-1	—
6		HOMELECK BOY D McCain 6-11-1	A Murphy (7)
7	03/0	KINGS KETCHUP 20 J Charlton 6-11-1	P Dennis (4)
10	P0	RAWTHEY BANK 46 A Brown 5-11-1	C Grant
11	F00	RENEMO 14 K Oliver 6-11-1	J K Kinane
14	0/00-	SWEET CHESTNUT 498 J Wade 6-11-1	—
15	00-0	TRIAL PERIOD 16 R Earnshaw 5-11-1	M Hammond
17	00-0	WALK ALONG 28 J Hubbuck 6-11-1	T Reed
18	3000	ACTIA 20 E Owen jnr 6-10-10	—
19	00-	CANT GO WRONG 525 M Oliver 6-10-10	E Buckley (4)
20	F0P	CERTAIN MELODY 17 (V) E Alston 6-10-10	—
22	0800	HAZEL BANK 28 P Monteith 6-10-10	D Nolan
23	00	MAGIC ECHO 67 S Payne 5-10-10	B Storey
24	0-0P	MISS LAKELAND 16 D MacDonald 6-10-10	—
25	0-30	SAXON SLAVE 133 J Jefferson 6-10-10	M Hill
26	0	SING COUNTRY 17 Mrs M Kendall 5-10-10	Mrs M Kendall
27	434F	QUEEN OF SWORDS 22 R Hollinshead 4-10-2	P Dever
28	3FB0	THE FINK SISTERS 16 T Cunningham 4-10-2	Mr S Cunningham (7)

9-4 Queen of Swords, 4-1 The Fink Sisters, 11-2 Galadine, 8-1 Hazel Bank, Saxon Slave, 9-1 Walk Along, 16-1 others

2.30 PENRITH SELLING HANDICAP CHASE (£675: 2m) (12)

2	2420	BIRSBY 28 (CD,F,G,S) R McDonald 13-11-8	J O'Gorman (7)
3	U400	CORKER 11 (CD,F,G,S) W A Stephenson 11-11-8	R Lamb
4	10P0	REAY'S SONG 11 (CD,S) M Naughton 13-11-8	C Grant
5	2443	SUPER SOLO 35 (D,F,G,S) P Monteith 11-11-6	D Nolan
7	0002	GROUND MASTER 11 (D,G,S) C J Bell 10-11-8	Mr J Osborne (7)
8	00-P	SASPRING 18 (S) K White 12-10-13	K Doolan
9	9430	JUVENILE PRINCE 11 (B) M Oliver 9-10-12	E Buckley (4)
10	0300	DR GUILLOTINE 35 (CD,F,G,S) W Fairgrieve 12-10-9	G Thomson (7)
11	PB-0	ARTSUM 11 (F,G) R Jeffrey 12-10-8	—
12	3P04	AVANTIE 35 (B,D,G,S) J S Wilson 11-10-7	P Tuck
14	00-0	JARALL 147 (S) N Tinkler 7-10-3	NON-RUNNER
15	-P80	DUN ROLFE 123 N Waggott 7-10-3	—

11-4 Juvenile Prince, 7-2 Birsby, 5-1 Reay's Song, 7-1 Saspring, 8-1 Corker, 10-1 Ground Master, 12-1 others

3.0 EBF COCKERMOUTH HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,623: 2m 330yd) (8)

1	4310	CARAT STICK 28 (CD,S) F Walton 7-11-10	Mr J Walton
2	4101	TARTAN TORCHLIGHT 14 (G,S) G Richards 7-11-8 (5ex)	P Tuck
3	P011	BURRI WALK 20 (G,S) I Jordon 7-11-2	G Martin
4	0003	HARLEY 7 (G) Miss J Eaton 7-11-2	C Dennis (7)
6	P-00	STARLIGHT ROCKY 34 (CD,G) Miss Z Green 11-11-0	J O'Gorman (7)
9	2144	PENDLEY GOLD 27 (S) M Naughton 6-10-10	M Hammond
11	00F1	KELLY'S INN 28 (S) D Moffatt 7-10-1	Amanda Glendinning (7)
12	3020	NAUTICAL JOKE 21 (BF) W A Stephenson 8-10-0	T P White (7)

3-1 Nautical Joke, 7-2 Harley, 9-2 Carat Stick, 7-1 Burri Walk, 8-1 Tartan Torchlight, 11-1 Kelly's Inn, 12-1 others

Course specialists

TRAINERS: M W Easterby, 5 winners from 20 runners, 25.0%; F Walton, 7 from 29, 24.1%; G Richards, 33 from 184, 17.9%; N Bycroft, 6 from 36, 16.7%; D McCain, 7 from 45, 15.5%; N Crump, 10 from 67, 14.9%.

JOCKEYS: N Doughty, 22 winners from 109 rides, 20.1%; Mr J Walton, 10 from 51, 19.6%; K Teelan, 5 from 31, 16.1%; C Grant, 16 from 105, 15.2%; C Hawkins, 12 from 83, 14.5%.

3.30 KENDAL HANDICAP CHASE (£2,241: 3m) (7)

3	-003	RAM THE THOR 20 (C,S) F Walton 12-11-7	Mr J Walton
4	0333	SUCCEEDED 14 (D,S) W A Stephenson 10-11-6	R Lamb
5	4UF3	DUNCOMBE PRINCE 11 (D,G,S) J Jefferson 8-11-1	N Doughty
7	-342	TULLAMARINE 16 (C,S) G Richards 10-10-7	P Tuck
8	P3F4	RANDOMLY 20 (CD,G,S) C J Bell 8-10-6	Mr J Osborne (7)
11	0-30	NEWSTEAD 129 (G,S) W Fairgrieve 9-10-0	J Hansen
13	0253	STRAWHILL 16 (C,D,G,S) E Alston 12-10-0	K Doolan

11-4 Ram The Thor, 100-30 Tullamarine, 4-1 Succeeded, 5-1 Randomly, 7-1 Duncombe Prince, 10-1 others

4.0 WIGTON NOVICE HURDLE (£685: 2m 330yd) (16)

1	0-04	BALMBICELLO 81 R Bainbridge 5-11-1	Mr L Hudson
2	-00	BARONY ISLE 20 B Wilkinson 6-11-1	Mr J Osborne (7)
3	0420	BEAKER 7 (V) M Naughton 7-11-1	C Grant
4	2032	BESSACARR BOY 13 (BF) G Richards 6-11-1	P Tuck
5	-42	BISHOPDALE 164 W A Stephenson 6-11-1	R Lamb
6	PFF	CERDAL 14 Miss M Bell 5-11-1	B Storey
7	U0-0	KAVAKA 27 G Moore 5-11-1	M Hammond
8	3002	LORD SUN 13 D Moffatt 5-11-1	K Teelan
9	0000	MAJOR ROUGE 21 J Charlton 5-11-1	P Dennis (4)
10	0	MONKS GOLD 551 Mrs C Postlethwaite 7-11-1	—
11	/PF0	SADDAM 14 B Wilkinson 7-11-1	C Hawkins
14	0	ALL DAY LONG 35 Miss Z Green 6-10-10	M Meagher
15	-000	CALIMATA 34 Lady A Bowlby 6-10-10	Mr D Kinsella
17	-003	MAREJO 17 F Walton 6-10-10	Mr J Walton
18	0	DAD'S LINE 9 J R Turner 4-10-7	Mr S Swiers (7)
19	6	JOHNS BLUFF 35 J J O'Neill 4-10-7	—

9-4 Bessacarr Boy, 4-1 Beaker, 5-1 Marejo, 6-1 Bishopdale, 8-1 Lord Sun, 10-1 Major Rouge, 14-1 others

4.30 WHITEHAVEN NOVICE CHASE (£1,039: 2m 4f) (11)

1	3FF2	BOREHAM DOWN 6 (S) N Bycroft 8-11-5	C Grant
2	0P4P	CHAMP CHICKEN 12 (G,S) D McCain 8-11-5	K Doolan
3	0PF4	CHIPCHASE 9 (G,S) B Wilkinson 7-11-5	G Harker
4	0-	COCKLEY BRIG 553 R Brewis 10-11-5	T Reed
5	2F24	GREEN GORSE 14 (F,S) N Crump 7-11-5	C Hawkins
9	0009	KEEP DREAMING 14 M Reddan 10-11-5	A Merrigan (7)
11	F-0F	PONDERONIT 86 A Knowles 7-11-5	R Hatfield
12	0000	SECRET LAKE 14 (G,S) J Charlton 8-11-5	B Storey
14	0U30	TOPHAMS TAVERNS 14 (F,G,S) G Moore 6-11-5	M Hammond
16	2-30	WEST LINK 102 W A Stephenson 7-11-5	R Lamb
18	PPPP	REBRONA 17 F Walton 9-11-0	Mr J Walton

9-4 Green Gorse, 3-1 Tophams Taverns, 9-2 Keep Dreaming, 7-1 Boreham Down, 10-1 others

5.0 MARYPORT NH FLAT RACE (£511: 2m 330yd) (26)

1	0	BAY BRIDGE 14 I Jordon 6-11-8	—
2		BORDER OAK A Eubank 5-11-8	—
3		DENETOP LAD F Musgrave 5-11-8	Mr S Swiers (7)
4		DIVINE PROBLEM W A Stephenson 5-11-8	A Stanford (7)
5		DROMIN ACADEMY J Edwards 6-11-8	—
6	0	ELITE BOY 11 Mrs C Black 5-11-8	A Murphy (7)
7	0-	GEMS DELIGHT 368 J Charlton 6-11-8	C Dennis (7)
8	0	GREEN TOPS 11 M Avison 5-11-8	—
9	4	INTO THE MYSTIC 14 B McLean 5-11-8	Mr A Orkney
11		OVER AND ABOVE C H Bell 5-11-8	—
12	00	SOUTH SUNRISE 21 T Tate 5-11-8	W Stephens (7)
16		CHERRY CREST Mrs M Dickinson 5-11-3	Mr C N Smith (7)
17		JEDHARTS WRATH F Walton 6-11-3	Mr J Walton
18	00-	JUST MAUNBY 14 D Lee 6-11-3	Mr H Brown (7)
19	0-	KOWHAI 328 R Goldie 6-11-3	Mr G Scope (7)
20	0	LINGHAM CHARM 16 J Swiers 5-11-3	Miss A Stokell (7)
21		DENETOP PRINCE F Musgrave 4-11-0	A Merrigan (7)
22	0	DRUMMORE MAGIC 16 T Cunningham 4-11-0	Mr S Cunningham (7)
23		FELL MIST D MacDonald 4-11-0	—
24	0	RUNAWAY TRAIN 11 M W Easterby 4-11-0	—
25		SPRINGVALE CRUSADE R Fisher 4-11-0	—
28	0	CAPALICE 16 J R Turner 4-10-9	—
29	0	CELTIC SIS 11 M H Easterby 4-10-9	—
30	0	DEEP DESIRE 18 Miss J Eaton 4-10-9	Mr J Osborne (7)
31		GRAYROSE DOUBLE E Owen jnr 4-10-9	D Skyrme (7)
32		LADY MANELLO Mrs A Hamilton 4-10-9	—

9-4 Cherry Crest, 7-2 Dromin Academy, 5-1 Into The Mystic, 7-1 Springvale Crusade, 8-1 Celtic Sis, 10-1 others

● Muis Roberts has been booked to ride Try Harder for Jimmy Fitzgerald in the William Hill Lincoln on March 28. The 32-year-old jockey returns from a working holding in South Africa on Monday.

Wincanton results

Going: good to soft

2.0 (2m hdle) 1, SOLIDASAROCK (D Browne, 9-4 fav); 2, Lizzy Longstocking (D Wonnacott, 5-1); 3, Halwa Season (J Frost, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 100-30 Broxted Spar, 7 Idle Mainee (pu), 11 Bendicks (4th), 12 Tudor Tulip, 14 Royal Gurkha, 20 Some Spare (6th), 33 Miss Panto, 50 Admiral's Dance (pu), Milni, I Appeal, Miss Bootsie, Rydwalls-Star (5th), Tinsitue Angel, Tuesday's Imp. 17 ran. NR: Bay-Em-Vay, Morang Exchange, Millers Way, Star Part. 2l, 8l, 6l, 8l, ½l. Mrs M Rimell at Severn Stoke. Tote: £3.70; £1.80 £1.10 £2.90. DF: £6.00. CSF £14.43.

2.30 (2m 5f ch) 1, LEAN AR AGHAIDH (G Landau, 6-1); 2, Mister Donut (W Irving, 14-1); 3, Horn Of Plenty (Mr P Fenton, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 3 fav Socks Downe (6th), 5 French Captain (4th), Clear The Course (f), 9 Lucky Rew (5th), 20 Cilerna Jet, 25 Run To Me. 9 ran. NR: Bickleigh Bridge, Linpac North. 12l, 10l, 1½l, dist, 3l. S Mellor at Lambourn. Tote: £8.10; £2.20, £3.30, £2.50. DF: £72.60. CSF: £72.36. Tricast: £372.92.

3.0 (3m 1f ch) 1, ROYAL JUDGEMENT (Mr P Hacking, 5-6 fav); 2, Swaggering (Mr I Widdicombe 25-1); 3, Celtic Prince (Mr R Wines, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Further Thought (5th), 11 Mister Bosun (4th), 20 Atomic Answer (6th), 25 Applaino, Arctic Mariner (pu), Crozbridge (pu), Leading Artist (f), 33 Foot Stick, Rawlinson, 50 Never Tamper, Our Seamus (pu), Stoic Yarn (pu), Woolly Jumper, Rald Hope (pu). 17 ran. NR: Bonnie Buskins. 5l, nk, 2l, 1½l, 10l. Lady Rootes at Ashford. Tote: £2.00; £1.50, £4.10, £16.30. DF: £18.30. CSF: £24.28.

3.30 (2m hdle) 1, KINGS FOLLY (G McCourt, 11-1); 2, Elvercone (H Davies, 11-2); 3, Gay Gunner (R Beggan, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 3 fav Thorn Pirate (6th), 9-2 Bold Impression (5th), 6 Bright Intervals (4th), Supreme Charter, 10-1 Up Cooke, 16 Distress Call, Promando Lad, The Lost Key, 20 Board Line, 50 Celtic Spring, Hansel's Run, Lychett Bay (ur), Wild Deal, Princes Babu, Sovereignano. 18 ran. NR: Bay-Em-Vay. 3l, 5l, 7l, 2½l, nk. D Haydn Jones at Pontypridd. Tote: £16.20; £3.80, £2.30, £3.90. DF: £56.20. CSF: £75.02.

4.0 (2m ch) 1, COUGHLANS RUN (H Davies, 5-2 fav); 2, Charlesmount (R Boucher, 50-1); 3, Mr Kay (P Croucher, 3-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Dewsbry Boy (4th), 10 Cradle Of Jazz (5th), Lactor (pu), Mr Seagull (6th), Winter Measure (pu), 33 Master Pardy (f), 50 Duncliffe Dancer (f), Hollowell (pu), Huntworth (pu), Scottish Air, Stop Fighting (pu), Trinsah (pu), Winged Kestrel (pu). 16 ran. 2l, 10l, 1½l, 12l, dist. T Forster at Wantage. Tote: £3.20; £1.40, £15.90, £1.80. DF: £167.70. CSF: £121.39.

4.30 (2m hdle) 1, GOOD LORD (R Linley, 10-1); 2, Shidalar Tazaanir (C Brown, 7-4 fav); 3, Mouradabia (R Arnott, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Shah's Choice (f), 10 Roi De Soleil, 14 Aunt Ismay (4th), 16 Fireproof, 20 Proud Soldier (pu), Silca Chiavi (5th), 33 Missatlora, Shy Hiker, 50 Delsean Bay (pu), Hays Hill, Quicken The Bid (ro), Rubienne, Showdance, Sir Brett, Archie's Niece, Classic Times, Persian Blade (6th). 20 ran. NR: Samanpour. 2l, 20l, 15l, 2l, 2l. G Balding at Weyhill. Tote: £10.30; £2.30, £1.20, £1.80. DF: £8.10. CSF: £28.30.

5.0 (2m hdle) 1, NORSTOWN (N Coleman, 20-1); 2, Redgrave Girl (S Earle, 9-1); 3, Welsh Warrior (Steve Knight, 7-4 fav); 4, Prince Rambore (D Browne, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Upham Gamble, 7 Record Wing (f), 9 Black Sheep, 14 Careen, Vynz Supreme (f), 16 Mad About Ya (5th), Some Moor, 20 Dicks Folly, 50 Thrucham Lad, Long John, Stackbooth (6th), Saffron Poser. 15 ran. NR: Autumn Sun, Tregairiog. hd, 2l, 10l, 8l, 2½l. R Holder at Bristol. Tote: £80.70; £9.70, £1.80, £1.60, £2.70. DF: £84.50. CSF: £189.66. Tricast: £444.05.
Placepot: £177.35

Stratford

Going: soft

2.15 (2m hdle) 1, K O Island (J Lower, 9-2); 2, Wiseruth (D J Burchell, 7-1); 3, Patralan (C Smith, 7-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 4 Pamela Heaney (4th), 6 Salzano (5th), 10 Castanheiro, Gold Sovereign (pu), 14 Tabacos (pu), 25 Coggrove (6th), The Golf Slide, 33 Sala Thims, Ruperts Daughter (pu), Sussex Overseas (f). 13 ran. NR: Grand Celebration. 12l, hd, ¾l, 20l, 2l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £6.40; £2.00, £1.90, £2.00. DF: £41.60. CSF: £35.93. Tricast: £113.77. Winner bought in for 2,800gns.

2.45 (2m hdle) 1, CRUSADER'S STAR (S Morshead, 5-4 fav); 2, Chelsea Man (R Crank, 20-1); 3, Amathea (R Dunwoody, 9-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Dama Flora (pu), 5 Doyle's Express (4th), 16 The Frozen Padre, 20 River Trout (5th), 33 Chance Partner, 50 Court Brook, Fib, 66 Joe Jaffe (pu), Legal Star, Bank House Lodge, Emily de Pomme, Grey Legacy (6th), Pantomimist (pu). 15 ran. NR: Bay-Em-Vay. 2½l, ¾l, 3l, 20l, 12l. Mrs W D Sykes at Bishops Castle. Tote: £2.60; £1.30, £3.10, £1.50. DF: £42.90. CSF: £25.54.

3.15 (2m ch) 1, PAN ARCTIC (S Sherwood, 9-2); 2, Baltic (A Carroll, 20-1); 3, Kilbrittain Castle (K Mooney, 5-2 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 5-2 jt-fav Vodkatini (6th), 11-2 Awning (5th), 10 Cabral (4th), 20 Marine Star, 33 Luck Mistake (pu), 50 Asmid (pu). 9 ran. nk, 8l, 10l, 8l, 6l. T Bill at Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Tote: £6.30; £1.90, £2.60, £1.70. DF: £34.60. CSF: £70.86. Tricast: £244.26.

3.45 (3m 2f ch) Race void (none of the finishers jumped the final open ditch).

4.15 (3m 2f ch) 1, GUNNER (Mrs S West, 6-1); 2, Culm Valley (Mr C Dowt, 6-4); 3, Optimum (Mr P Nicholson, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 5-4 fav Bonnie Buskins (bd), 12 Abervanter (bd), 20 Tens Or Better (f), 25 Gray Tarquin (4th), 33 Lissdoim (bd). 8 ran. 4l, 12l, dist. P J West at Torpoint. Tote: £9.90 £2.40, £1.30, £1.30. DF: £7.60. CSF: £21.75.

4.45 (2m hdle) 1, ROYAL CRACKER (R Crank, 5-2 fav); 2, Topsoil (A Carroll, 11-2); 3, Visual Identity (A Webb, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Sitar Theme (6th), Flower Of Tintern, 8 Annes Ra (4th), Clermont Lane (5th). 7 ran. 8l, 1l, 4l, ¾l, 15l. T Bill at Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Tote: £4.10; £1.50, £3.20. DF: £23.40. CSF: £15.52
Placepot: £11.20

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Countdown to Cheltenham

Jumping for the joy of it after a winter of racing discontent

Cheltenham is the high point of the year for a National Hunt jockey. Steve Smith Eccles kept a day-to-day record of his build-up to last year's Festival and his remarkable Champion Hurdle triumph on See You Then.

Saturday March 1

Panic is descending on the ranks of National Hunt trainers. Cheltenham is now just 10 days away and we woke up this morning to the sight of a fresh and intense blizzard. It is the fourth consecutive Saturday without racing and although Messrs Fish and McCaskill are now hinting vaguely that the middle of next week could see a temporary end to this wretched spell, even that would give the ground scant time to thaw completely, and the poor trainers no time at all to get any racecourse work into their Cheltenham horses.

Sunday March 2

Spent the morning checking and confirming my Cheltenham races, keeping my fingers firmly crossed for the weather. I have expanded my training programme to include riding out two lots each morning. I still feel podgy, but my dedication did not extend to going without Sunday lunch. I downed it ravenously with the silent promise that it would be my final treat before the Festival.

Tuesday March 4

This morning I felt like a kid waking up on Christmas Day to find that Santa really has left a sackful of presents at the foot of the bed – it was pouring with rain!

Wednesday March 5

It was a day of big racing news, dominated by the story that, for the second year running, Burrough Hill Lad is a late withdrawal from the Gold Cup. My first feeling on hearing the news was one of self-preservation. The story of Burrough Hill Lad was actually related to me over the telephone, by David Nicholson, Peter Scudamore's guv'nor. Although nothing was said directly, I suspected that he was sounding me out over the prospect of Scudamore – now without his Gold Cup ride – reclaiming the engagement for Run and Skip.

At six this evening I finally received the call I had been expecting. It was 'Scu'. I told him that I had accepted the ride on an understanding with John Spearing that I would keep it, whatever may befall Burrough Hill Lad. 'Scu' told me he already knew this, having spoken to Mr Spearing himself. The trainer's solution had apparently been to inform 'Scu' that he must sort it out with me. Now, Pete is a good mate of mine and I didn't blame him for trying to get the ride back but I also had no intention of backing down. "What would you do in my position?" I asked him, and he immediately knew he was chasing a lost cause.

A couple of hours later, after several more newspaper calls, I was cheered up when Jeff McCarthy, one of Run and Skip's owners, rang up himself. "As far as we are concerned, you will ride the horse," he said. I give him and his colleagues full marks for loyalty. For my part, I have to go to Stratford on Sunday to ride Run and Skip and then watch videos of his recent races. That is a small price to pay for the privilege of a Gold Cup ride on a horse now down to 10-1 third favourite.

Sunday March 9

Run and Skip has never struck me as a very handsome animal to look at and today the impression was amplified. He does not even give a great feel when first you sit on him, but his recent record bears no criticism. In each race he has run, his bravery and wholehearted enthusiasm for the game has shone through, and if there will inevitably be more gifted horses in Thursday's Gold Cup field, I can't believe there will be any who outdo my fellow for sheer effort.

Monday March 10

The days are gone when I could get any kick out of riding a no-hoper among class horses at this meeting, so I am not at all dismayed to have just the two rides tomorrow. The first is River Ceiriog, a nice sort of novice but still a maiden and most unlikely to cut much ice in the opening event of the meeting, the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices Hurdle.

But then, of course, there is See You Then... I have no doubts whatever that, given the necessary luck in running, he will win the 'Champion' for the second year running.

Tuesday March 11

It has been a fantastic day, one of the best of my career. Arriving at Prestbury Park on the opening day of the Festival is always a moment of supreme anticipation. Very often, of course, the expectation far outweighs the reality – so Tuesday morning is a time to savour.

Today, the crowds seemed bigger than ever, the tented village had certainly sprouted another river of tarpaulin since last year but the atmosphere was just the same as ever – exciting, intoxicating, with just a hint of Irish madness attached.

I had arrived early to be sure of avoiding the worst of the traffic and I sipped tea in the weighing room after changing into the colours of Mr Bobby McAlpine, owner of River Ceiriog, for the first event of the meeting.

The race was quite unbelievable. With the usual maximum field of novices, I intended to give my horse some daylight and keep him up with the pace. At the top of the hill I hit the front, yet I was fully expecting him to weaken rapidly after the second last. But River Ceiriog was not going to fold up. He lengthened his stride, flew the last and stormed up the run-in to win unchallenged.

What happened back in the unsaddling enclosure is something of a blur. I remember there being relative silence as we walked in, which can only be because nobody in the vicinity had availed themselves of the 40-1 odds which now suddenly seemed absurdly generous.

Very soon, my thoughts had turned once more to See You Then. I donned the green and white check silks and strolled out once more to the parade ring, where the terraces were now packed to bursting point with eager punters. My first sight of See You Then was a little alarming. He had had just the one run this season, shortly before the freeze-up, and to me he still looked on the tubby side of fit.

The race itself, however, gave me no worries at all. I managed to keep See You Then clear of the pack, cruised up behind Gaye Brief going to the last and let him sprint away up the hill with that devastating turn of foot which marks him as a true champion. There was never a moment when I was anything but convinced we would win, and it all went absolutely as we had planned. It was the perfect way to ride my fiftieth winner of the season

Salute to a champion. Steve Smith Eccles and See You Then (Photograph: Ed Byrne)

Wednesday March 12

Cheltenham being where it is, in the centre of England, most jockeys travel home each night. I am one of the few to stay in the area. I went back to Condicote tonight feeling relaxed and well, and if I don't win the Gold Cup tomorrow it will not be through any fault in my preparation.

Thursday March 13

The atmosphere was absolutely electric, as it always is on Gold Cup day. If there has ever been a better or more spectacular Gold Cup I would love to see it – this one was simply a privilege to have taken part in. That Dawn Run won – becoming the first horse ever to complete the double of Champion Hurdle and Gold Cup – is part of history, while the race itself is, I am sure, engraved on the memory of at least four jockeys – Jonjo O'Neill, who rode the winner, Graham Bradley (Wayward Lad), Mark Dwyer (Forgive 'n' Forget) and myself.

My plan had been to take Dawn Run on at the head of affairs and try to force her into mistakes. This made for a strong gallop and some pretty thrilling racing from the off, and it seemed to me that the plan had worked, when I caught sight of Jonjo apparently struggling with the mare as we hit the top of the hill for the final time. The trouble is, neither JJ O'Neill nor Dawn Run ever know when they are beaten.

Three from home, my horse was still in front. At the second last he hit the top of the fence, halting his rhythm, but it was then that I experienced the marvellous courage of Run and Skip. He may have begun the season as a mere handicapper, but he was showing the world now that he was perfectly entitled to his place in this Gold Cup field. He plugged on bravely, and if the three-horse drama a few yards in front of him deservedly took the glory, *I could have asked no more from my horse.*

Those who have seen one of the countless TV repeats of the race will know that Dawn Run came back when the race looked lost, touching off Wayward Lad on the line. What followed will go down in Festival history as the most extraordinary scene ever witnessed in the winners' enclosure. There had been a form of pandeonium two years earlier, when Dawn Run won the Champion Hurdle, but that was vicarage tea-party stuff compared to this wild cavorting invasion by hundreds and hundreds of exuberant Irishmen. Jonjo was lifted high on their shoulders. I have never seen a racing crowd respond like that to any winner and I doubt if I shall see its like again.

Friday March 14

I began the day with a hangover, an unsurprising relic of a night when quite a few refugees from Cheltenham cut loose. Today brought the inevitable anti-climax. It happens every year and it is never any easier to handle. All through the winter, the racing talk is of Cheltenham. It arrives with a thumping of drums and pumping adrenalin, it holds everyone involved on an emotional high, then all too quickly it is over.

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RUGBY UNION

Irish drop Carr in selection shake-up for French match

By George Ace

Every so often Irish selectors suffer from a sudden rush of blood to the head. Wednesday night in Dublin was a case in point. Faced with the not too onerous task of choosing the team to meet France at Lansdowne Road on Saturday week they contrived to ensure that their deliberations would make the headlines up and down the country.

They dropped the open side wing forward, Nigel Carr, switched Philip Matthews from blind-side and recalled a recognized No 8 in Brian Spillane to the flank.

At least that is the way the announcement of the team reads, but one can never be sure. Carr, incidentally, replaces Paul Collins on the replacements panel, and another shock omission is that of Tony Ward, who loses his place on the bench to Ralph Keyes, the Constitution and Munster outside-half, who won one cap against England at Twickenham last year. Otherwise the team and reserves is the same as that which lost to Scotland.

Carr has been generally accepted as one of the finest and fastest wing forwards in the home countries. He had trouble making contact with John Rutherford in the Scottish match at Murrayfield a few weeks ago but the whole team, with few exceptions, struggled that afternoon.

Spillane came on the international scene in the 1985 season when Ireland won the championship and the triple crown. And he played a notable part in that achievement. But the following season his form evaporated to such an extent that he was dropped for the final match against Scotland at Lansdowne Road.

The only possible reason for Spillane's inclusion over Carr is his physique: at 6ft 4in he is four inches the taller and tips the scales at 15st 9lb against Carr's 13st 3lb. Spillane will be winning his eighth cap, but his first at wing forward, his last appearance being against England at Twickenham last season.

It goes without saying that the selectors have opted for height and weight to stiffen the back row but one cannot help feeling it is a one-off job for this particular match.

Philip Orr reaches another milestone as a prop forward, breaking Graham Price's world record of 53 appearances for Wales and the British Lions when he marks his 54th appearance in this game. There will be a day long training session in Dublin on Sunday and it will be interesting to note the variations of back row play that will probably unfold.

IRELAND (v France, Lansdowne Road, March 21): H P MacNeill (London Irish); T M Ringland (Ballymena), B J Mullin (Oxford Univ), M J Kiernan (Dolphin), K D Crossan (Instonians); P M Dean (St Mary's Coll), M T Bradley (Constitution); P A Orr (Old Wesley), H T Harbison (Bective Rangers), D C Fitzgerald (Lansdowne), P M Matthews (Wanderers), D G Lenihan (Constitution, captain), J J Glennon (Skerries), B Spillane (Bohemians), W A Anderson (Dungannon). Replacements: J J McCoy (Bangor), C F Fitzgerald (St Mary's Coll), N J Carr (Ards), J A P Doyle (Greystones), R P Keyes (Constitution), P I Rainey (Ballymena).

Welsh forced to make a change

By Gerald Davies

The injury to Phil Davies has forced the Welsh selectors to announce a change in their line-up to play Scotland at Murrayfield in eight days' time.

Mark Jones, from Neath, wins his first international cap in place of the injured Davies, who is likely to be out for five or six week, at No 8.

Jones forms part of the most successful club side in Welsh rugby this season, has already played for Wales B and was among the party to visit Italy last summer.

There were those who argued at the beginning of the season that he should have been included ahead of Davies. However, the latter's control at the base of the scrum and his international experience, swung the vote in his favour to be included in a team which already had several new faces.

That quantity and quality, even after two full games, remains uncertain. Against France it was the confrontation – in the best sense – at forward that was uppermost and it was the defensive qualities that were tested. Not much was seen in combined movements going forward.

Against England in the battering ram contest – in the worst sense – the challenge was met once more. It was a game, not best forgotten as someone suggested, but rather to be indelibly imprinted on the mind, as was the 1980 match at Twickenham, for the lessons to be learnt on the importance attitude plays in rugby football. For if not, the game is poisonously afflicted.

But neither against France nor England was there any answer to the overall effectiveness of the team as a whole. There remains therefore a reluctance to tamper.

We still do not know, for example, how good the centre pairing is and Webbe and Evans, known for their attacking qualities on the wing, have remained, largely, isolated.

The inclusion of Jones in the middle of the back three in the scrum will give an opportunity to see whether the opinion of his many supporters will come true and that, while the Welsh trio have plugged sternly and bravely away in the previous two games, more can be expected of an area which has caused severe difficulties for the team in the recent past seasons.

WALES: M Wyatt (Swansea), G Webbe (Bridgend), J Devereux (South Glamorgan Institute), K Hopkins (Swansea), I Evans (Llanelli), J Davies (Neath), R Jones (Swansea), J Whitefoot (Cardiff), B James (Aberavon), S Evans (Neath), P Moriarty (Swansea), S Sutton (South Wales Police), R Norster (Cardiff), D Pickering (capt, Llanelli), M Jones (Neath). Replacements: A Hadley (Cardiff), M Dacey (Swansea), J Griffiths (Llanelli), A Buchanan (Llanelli), S Davies (South Wales Police), R Collins (South Wales Police).

BOXING

Cowpuncher heads for the KO corral

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

James "Quick" Tillis, the fighting cowpuncher, strode into town yesterday rootin' for a fight. And if his fighting is as smart as his talking then Frank Bruno will have to be fast in the draw at Wembley on March 24.

Wearing the whole cowboy kit and caboodle, the tall man out of Tulsa entered the Lonsdale gym in Carnaby Street shooting from the hip. "I don't float like a butterfly and I don't sting like a bee because I'm no Ali", he said, sticking his thumbs in his belt. "I'm the fightin' cowboy. I ride 'em, rustle 'em, rope 'em, brand 'em and tie 'em up." Yep, y'all Bruno fans are sure gonna be surprised with ever'thang.

Tillis, who is one of only three men to go the distance with Tyson, met Bruno when they were training in the same camp in the Catskills three years ago. "Bruno's good but I'm gonna take him to the bridge and drop him over", Tillis said.

As world No 1, Tillis went 15 rounds with Mike Weaver; and, although he is not ranked any more, he is raring to go again. Since being outpointed by Joe Bugner in Sydney seven months ago, he has boxed five times, been knocked out once and taken his record to 25 wins, 11 defeats and a draw. He was in the ring only last week when he stopped Ron Douglas in four rounds. "I'm 216 lean and mean", Tillis said.

"Mickey Duff called us on Saturday when Page dropped out", Tillis's manager, Beau Williford, said. Williford maintains that they have not come here for a pay day. Tillis is well off, has a ranch and makes a fair living calf-roping at the rodeos.

"We are getting paid well, better than when we fought Bugner," Williford said, "but we haven't come here for a pay day. We are going to win because the winner gets to fight Tyson. When Tillis fought Tyson the score was 6-4, 6-4, 7-3 and we've been whining and snivelling to fight him again and this is our chance. "If there is a knockout it is going to be early and I don't think anybody is going to be taking Tillis out", Williford said.

Tillis will train at the Thomas A Becket. The famous pub has had a £20,000 refit and was reopened by Dick Tracey, the Minister for Sport, yesterday with a roundhouse clout on the heavy bag.

Talking about Tillis, the fighting cowpoke, Gary Cooper is going to be the next opponent for Lloyd Hibbert, the Birmingham light-middleweight, who beat Nick Wilshire at the Albert Hall on Wednesday night to lift the British and Commonwealth titles. Wilshire decided to call it a day. After 40 contests he just could not bear starting again.

Tom Collins, of Leeds, too, was thinking about retirement just as he was out on his feet in his British light-heavyweight title bout with John Moody, of Rayleigh. But a right hand in the tenth flattened Moody and Collins's retirement plans.

SNOOKER

£1 million from new sponsor

By Sydney Friskin

Fidelity Unit Trusts, the world's largest investment management group, announced in London yesterday a £1 million sponsorship package over the next three years with a two-year option to extend.

The event to be sponsored is next season's first ranking tournament, which will known as the Fidelity Unit Trusts International, at Stoke-on-Trent. The preliminary rounds will be held from September 8 to 11 with all the 128 professional snooker players invited to participate.

The televised stage for the last 32 will start on September 24 and end on October 4. It will be televised by ITV and Channel 4 in the final stages and will receive about 30 hours of coverage.

This tournament has in recent years been run under various names. Last September, as the BCE International, it was won by Neal Foulds. Next year under its new title it will offer a total of £200,000 in prize money with a sum of £40,000 to the winner.

Barry Bateman, the managing director of Fidelity Investment Services, said that the sponsorship was undertaken after a careful study of the impact snooker was making on the public at large.

This three-year sponsorship is regarded by the controlling body, the World Professional Billiards Snooker Association, as a renewal of faith in the game and its administration.

ATHLETICS

Coe leads a young GB team

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

The British indoor season finishes with a double-header at Cosford this weekend. Tonight there is the sixth England v United States indoor match, and on Sunday an invitation meeting, featuring many of the same athletes.

Despite a second, or even third or fourth rate American team, the measure of which was the announcement following the United States championships at Madison Square Garden two weeks ago inviting anyone interested to sign-on the squad, the match is a crowd pleaser. And it, at least affords the opportunity for youngsters like Martin Waldron in the 60 metres, Anthony Jarrett in the 60 metres hurdles, Marcus Adam in the 200 metres and Neal Gray in the shot to get the sort of international introduction which could prove invaluable when they are competing for future medals.

The Sunday fixture on the other hand seems to have been appended simply to satisfy sponsors and give Independent Television an opportunity to get back into the frame after their lamentable refusal to honour the spirit of their exclusive domestic contract and cover last week's World Indoor Championships.

The American team which was originally announced would have had little problem in winning most of the events.

However, their nomination was evidently as wishful as the Madison Square Garden announcement. But the visiting team tonight should still be good enough to extend the lead over England to 4-2 in their recent series of matches, which have often, excitingly gone to the last event, the 4 x 400 metres.

The one event the British should win is the 3,000 metres, where Sebastian Coe makes his only appearance of the indoor season. The double Olympic 1,500 metres champion recorded a personal best of 7min 54.32sec in winning this event last year, but his expected move up to 5,000 metres outdoors did not happen. And it was a good job too, for he stayed with 800 metres and finally won a major title at the European championships in Stuttgart in September.

Coe is being a little more circumspect about the 5,000 metres this year. But if Brian Abshire, who recorded 7min 54.64sec in the United States championships, can go faster than that, we and Coe may see how his potential for the longer event is shaping up.

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Scarborough's ultimate test

By Paul Newman

Scarborough, whose relentless challenge for the GM Vauxhall Conference title has finally started to show some rewards, tomorrow face what Neil Warnock, their manager, regards as the ultimate test of their promotion credentials.

The Yorkshire side entertain Enfield, the defending champions, who since joining the Conference six years ago have won all five of their league matches at the Athletic Ground. Although they no longer have any realistic chance of retaining the title, they will be treated with the utmost respect by Warnock.

"Enfield are always a threat," he said yesterday. "They were my tip to win the league this season and if they hadn't dropped so many points at home they would have been up there with us now. They play some lovely football and are a test for anybody."

Since their last league defeat in October, Scarborough have taken 39 points from a possible 45. Barnet, the leaders, have maintained an advantage throughout that period and are two points clear, having played the same number of games.

In the past fortnight, however, they have faltered slightly: seven successive league victories have been followed by draws at home to Weymouth and away to Kettering Town, and last week they lost at home to Fareham Town – who had knocked out Scarborough in the previous round – in the FA Trophy.

Although the top two are seven points clear of their closest challengers, Warnock refuses to see the championship as a two-horse race. "All the top four or five are still in with a chance," he said. "With three points for a win things can change very quickly and the great thing about this league is that anybody can beat anybody else.

"I know we've established a reputation as a team who are hard to beat and I'm proud of that. Some people say we're too defensive but given the huge number of changes I've made, we haven't been able to afford to be too adventurous. We know we haven't got Barnet's flair but we are solid and there's tremendous spirit in the side.

"We don't talk about the championship or about what we're going to do in the fourth division. The time for that will be when it happens. We're just delighted to have done as well as we have and if the season ended tomorrow we would still have had a great year."

Warnock's signing last week of Stuart Hamill, the Altrincham winger, for a four-figure fee was his seventeenth of the season. Of last season's first-team regulars, only Neil Thompson is still in the side.

Several players followed Warnock after his departure from Burton Albion last year and there will be something of a reunion later this month when Scarborough visit the Multipart League club in the quarter-finals of the GMAC Cup.

Warnock was among the crowd of more than 3,000 who saw Burton win 1-0 at home to Maidstone in an FA Trophy quarter-final replay on Wednesday night. "I'm delighted for Burton, particularly as most of the team were at the club in my days there," he said. "It will be some night when we get back together again."

Conference table

(Up to and including Wednesday)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barnet	32	20	8	4	74	32	68
Scarborough	32	19	9	4	45	27	66
Altrincham	33	16	11	6	53	40	59
Enfield	33	17	4	12	51	39	55
Maidstone United	30	16	5	9	51	35	53
Telford United	31	15	8	8	55	40	53
Boston United	33	15	5	13	63	60	50
Runcorn	31	14	7	10	56	49	49
Bath City	33	13	10	10	47	48	49
Sutton United	32	13	9	10	62	43	48
Kidderminster H	31	15	2	14	63	62	47
Cheltenham Town	33	12	10	11	52	42	46
Weymouth	34	12	9	13	57	60	45
Stafford Rangers	30	11	5	14	45	43	38
Wealdstone	35	10	8	17	46	59	38
Dagenham	33	10	7	16	44	60	37
Northwich Victoria	34	7	13	14	44	57	34
Kettering Town	31	8	8	15	40	50	32
Welling United	31	7	9	15	48	62	30
Frickley Athletic	34	6	10	18	38	63	28
Nuneaton Borough	31	5	12	14	34	60	27
Gateshead	31	3	11	17	33	70	20

BOWLS

Impressive England coast to victory

By Gordon Allan

England, the Hilton Trophy holders since 1983, re-emphasized their claim to the CIS international indoor team championship when they beat Wales by 145 shots to 100 at Aberdeen yesterday. The margin of victory was 20 shots smaller than it had been against Ireland on Wednesday but the manner in which it was achieved was just as impressive.

Wales, like Ireland, have plenty of fine players but it is perhaps in the intermediate positions of No 2 and third man that both countries fall short of England. Whether Scotland also fall short will become clear today when they play England in a match almost certain to decide the series.

Pip Branfield's rink beat Dai Richards' 34-7 and David Ward finished 30-17 up on Ray Hill. Otherwise the results were close, with Peter Bailey gaining Wales' only success – 20-18 over Andy Thomson – and Jim Morgan holding David Bryant 16-16.

It was announced yesterday that John Fullarton has been withdrawn from the Scotland team for the rest of the series. Early in the match with Wales on Wednesday evening, Fullarton, who appeared to be unsteady on his feet, was taken off the green and replaced by Ron Erskine. No official explanation has been given.

Martin Conlin, secretary of the British Isles Indoor Bowls Council, said the matter was in the hands of the Scottish Indoor Bowling Association, who will make no statement until after their council meeting on April 12.

RESULTS: England 145, Wales 100. Rink scores (England skips first): D Ward 30, R Hill 17; A Thomson 18, P Bailey 20; J Bell 20, D Wilkins 18; P Branfield 34, D Richards 7; A Allcock 27, C McGhee 22; D Bryant 16, J Morgan 16.

Fast moves overrun Canadians

Schools rugby
by Michael Stevenson

Guelph Collegiate, from Ontario, were no match for **King Edward's School, Bath**, losing 62-8 in a game dominated by the hosts' fast three-quarters, for whom Paul Daniels, a lively wing, scored three tries. Peter Robinson, the Guelph coach, described the match as "a valuable learning experience." King Edward's have enjoyed an excellent season, winning 10 and drawing one of their 12 matches.

After a coaching session, in the capable hands of "Chalkie" White, on Tuesday, the Canadian team will play Wycliffe, on Thursday, March 19, before embarking on a short trip to the Netherlands and Belgium, to play two more matches.

The Ridley College side, from Toronto, are also touring. They have arranged five matches – against **Rugby, Pocklington, Hymers, The Leys** and **King's Canterbury**, and on Sunday they will take part in the Suffolk Sevens.

St Mary and St Joseph's, Sidcup, followed their tour of Belgium with a convincing 38-3 victory over their neighbours, **St Joseph's Academy**, Blackheath. While on tour they lost 20-6 to a Brussels select team, but defeated their hosts, the British school in Brussels, by 21-9.

The Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe, have ended their season recently with the wonderful record of: played 19, won 17, lost 2, scoring 443 points to 195 conceded – playing running 15-man rugby.

England's 16-group final trial will be played at Strensall, York, on Saturday, and following last Sunday's final trial, the 18-group squad has been selected for a training weekend at Dulwich College and a match against a Rosslyn Park Colts XV on Sunday March 22.

ENGLAND 18-GROUP SQUAD: I A R Macleod (St Paul's S); W M C Henderson (Sherborne S), D R J Dooley (Campion S), D J Rigault (Cowley HS), T Underwood (Barnard Castle S); N Canning (RGS Guildford), B P Fenley (Pate's GS); J M Priestley (Bradford GS), R Martin (St Joseph's Acad, Blackheath), J M Dent (Durham S), A E Phillips (Bancroft S), M O Johnson (Robert Smyth Upper S), G A E Robinson (Trent C), N A Back (The Woodlands S), J K Horrobin (The Royal Forest of Dean Coll); R J Harrison (Ermysted's GS), A B Hozzaton (Solihull S), P E Miles (King Henry VIII, Coventry), J W F Mills (Plymouth Coll), B G Stanhope (Royal Latin S), R C Parry-Jones (Sherborne S), M Winn (Ampleforth Coll); The following will play for Rosslyn Park Colts XV: G J Thompson (Whitgift S), A W Millward (Purley HS).

Richards is back on target

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

Dean Richards, who would have added to his two England caps won last season at No 8 but for injury, came through his second comeback match on Wednesday evening unscathed and will take his place in the Leicester side to play Bristol in tomorrow's delayed John Player Special Cup quarter-final at the Memorial Ground.

Richards damaged medial ligaments in his knee in a club game against Metropolitan Police in January, which forced him to withdraw from the England side which played Ireland. His first game back was with Leicester's second team last weekend and he played for British Police in their 37-27 win over Public School Wanderers at Imber Court on Wednesday, scoring a try and making another.

"I delayed returning until I was sure the knee was right," he said. "I'm still a bit rusty but obviously I would love the chance to play for England against Scotland." The team for that match will be announced on March 25 and Richards's progress, against Bristol and, the following Wednesday, against the New Zealand Barbarians, will be monitored closely.

The New Zealand side, who are celebrating their golden jubilee, arrive for their five-match tour this weekend. Their playing party of 22 is managed by Kevin Barry, their president who was a prop forward with Wilson Whineray's 1963 All Blacks in Britain.

ITINERARY: March: 18 v Leicester (7.15); 22 v Wanderers (Dublin); 25 v Ballymena Select (evening); 28 v Cornwall (Redruth). April 1 v Barbarians (Cardiff, evening).

● The British Polytechnics include one Welsh international and a Welsh triallist in their annual match with the UAU at Beeston, the Nottingham clubground, on Wednesday.

The UAU side is dominated by players from Welsh universities.

BRITISH POLYTECHNICS: R Kahn (Kingston); D Holdstock (Thames), P Reid (Sheffield), M Birkett (South Bank), D O'Brien (Teesside); A Williams (Wales), R Williams (Bristol); D Nunn (Leicester), J McFarland (Sheffield), A Hayes (Sheffield), R Stratford (Liverpool), T Shaw (Wales), J Antoniazzi (Portsmouth), C Mantel (Thames), O Hamlee (Bristol).

UAU: S Hill (University College, London); J Perkins (Bristol), M Hall (Cardiff), J Bird (Swansea), A Richards (Swansea); D Evans (Swansea), C Phillips (Swansea); G Evans (Swansea), H Williams (Cardiff), S Wordley (Cardiff), E Teleni (UWIST), T Swan (Liverpool), M Reid (Loughborough), S Holmes (East Anglia), S Bryant (Swansea).

هكذا من الأصل

FOOTBALL: GRAHAM'S WEARY SIDE ARE IN DANGER OF GRINDING TO A HALT

Arsenal desperately need to rediscover a sense of urgency

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Since Arsenal moved Tottenham Hotspur out of the way *nine days* ago and saw a signpost pointing to the Littlewoods Cup final at Wembley, they have stood transfixed, weary and unable to make any progress.

If anything, they have gone backwards. Before their defeat at Chelsea on Saturday, the odds on their winning the championship were 11-4. After their unbeaten home record in the *League had been* broken by Liverpool on Tuesday, they were regarded as no higher than 12-1 outsiders.

Indeed, they have advanced through this year's first division programme with all the speed of an ageing tortoise. *The* leaders in the opening week of January, they have not won any of their last half a dozen fixtures. *Out of a total* of 18 points, they have picked up a mere three.

Liverpool, nine points behind them less than two months ago, are now seven ahead. Everton, even though *they have been uncharacteristically* unsteady, have also overtaken them. Unless Arsenal immediately rediscover the sense of urgency they brought with them into 1987, they are in danger of grinding to a halt in the FA Cup as well.

In tomorrow's sixth round *they entertain* Watford, a side that has an unsettling record against them. Last season, for instance, the pair met on *March* 31 at *Highbury* and Arsenal lost 2-0. They faced each other two days later at Vicarage Road, and Arsenal lost 3-0.

By coincidence, the schedule has again brought the clubs together *at least twice within a* week. Graham Taylor, Watford's manager, for one would not be surprised if his side takes Arsenal back to their own home for a replay next week before playing them *there in the League the* following Saturday.

He points out that, in spite of going down 3-1 in the first of *this* season's meetings in October, "We have beaten them more often than not since we came up to the first division." Watford have been able to rest since their encouraging recovery against Everton on Sunday.

Their manager, George Graham, *admits that his team* were "tired" at Stamford Bridge and that they were "taught a lesson" earlier this week. *Still without the injured* trio of Davis, Nicholas and Williams, he can summon neither fresh legs nor experienced heads. *He has no choice* but to rely once more on his youngsters.

Four Arsenal players were booked at Chelsea and, although none was *cautioned* against Liverpool, there were times when they were verbally challenging the referee more vehemently than physically competing with their opponents. Such a lack of composure leads inevitably to a loss of concentration.

Rocastle has stood out alone as a midfield influence and their *attack* has temporarily at least lost its firepower. Of their starting frontline only Quinn has scored in the last seven and a *half* hours — and *only* one goal at that, during the first of their inspired performances against Tottenham in the *Littlewoods* Cup.

While their championship rivals have acquired new expensive assets, Graham has resisted the temptation to step *into* the market place. He defends his action by stating that "I'm determined to make sure I get the right kind of *player when I buy because we* already have the basis of a solid squad."

Should Arsenal avoid losing three games in succession for the first time this season and reach the last four in the competition for which they are favourites, his argument will gain credence.

England's schoolboys play hosts

Schools football
By George Chesterton

A West German under-15 XI meet an ESFA England team to play for the Nabisco Group Food Service Cup at Wembley tomorrow. This is the fiftieth meeting between England and West Germany at this level. The second match *this year is to be* played under lights at Liverpool's ground on Tuesday.

On Sunday a representative XI from the Lent Term Football Schools compete with a Kent *schools XI at Charterhouse*. Haileybury provides four players and RGS Worcester three. *An Independent Schools* XI meet an FA Youth XI at Bisham Abbey on Monday. In the *former* side *most* of players are from Northern schools with no fewer than four from QEGS Blackburn.

Bedford were very happy with a 6-2 win over **Kimbolton**, particularly as they were one behind at half-time. Oundle defeated *Oakham* 5-2, scoring three goals in a 10-minute period. Oakham were however *more successful against* Uppingham, coming from behind to win 4-1. St John's Leatherhead, *playing* KCS Wimbledon in bitter wintry weather, were glad to get home by the odd *goal to win* 2-1. Harrow were involved in a 3-3 draw against Douai, all goals *coming in the first half*.

Coventry with tails up in the year of the underdog

By Dennis Shaw

FA CUP

Observers of Coventry City's annual display of brinkmanship in protecting their first division *status over a period of 20 years* have, it seems, missed one crucial benefit gained among all *those frayed nerves*.

As a result of their more recent act of last-ditch survival *they now claim* to be at least as well prepared for the sudden death aspect of the FA Cup as any of the other seven quarter-finalists.

This is their mood as they prepare to meet Sheffield Wednesday in tomorrow's sixth round tie at *Hillsborough*. "*Outsiders are saying that the danger of our going out of the Cup and missing the chance of the club's* first ever semi-final will put unbearable pressure on us," the *former England forward*, Cyrille Regis, said.

"What these people forget is *that the so-called pressure will* be nothing compared to facing the last game of the season knowing that your first division place is at stake."

Coventry have, of course, *made a somewhat bizarre habit* of such salvage operations at regular intervals dating back to 1967 *when Jimmy Hill led them* into the first division.

Whether such anxieties truly have injected sufficient steel into their system to keep them on course for Wembley is about to be put to a rigorous test. Guidelines so far include fourth *and fifth round victories at Old* Trafford and Stoke City and three straight Cup wins without *a goal conceded*.

Fate also decreed that they could claim a degree of one-upmanship by beating Wednesday at *Highfield Road* last Saturday in what was billed as a Cup rehearsal but which *emerged as a snow-wrecked* farce.

Now the managerial duo of George Curtis, and the coach, John Sillett, are *looking* for a semi-final place secured with a touch of the flair which has *characterized their climb to the* top eight in the League.

"I *would love to see us do it* with a bit of class," Sillett confirmed. "Wednesday are a *powerful* and formidable side but I just feel we are equipped to play against them when you compare the two sides. Certainly they will make life tough for us by playing with a sweeper system, one which is always difficult to break down." But as the mighty have tumbled out of the current competition the feeling has grown that this could be the year of the underdog. Coventry, with no major trophy in *their collection, are undoubtedly* that.

However, anyone regarding *them as out of their depth*, a combination of upstarts recruited from lower divisions, do *them less than justice*.

The loss of the influential midfield player, Dean Emerson, injured on Saturday, will be an obvious *debit but the bonus from* it could be the inclusion of the effervescent Gymn, scorer of the *winning goal in the fifth round*.

Few defensive triangles are more reliable than the goalkeeper, Ogrizovic and the central defenders, Peake and Kilcline, with the full-backs, Downs (formerly Norwich City) and Borrows (*formerly* Everton) are not exactly inexperienced.

Coventry have developed a sense of togetherness under the guidance of Curtis and Sillett, a *quality reflected as much in* midfield as it is in defence.

"We respect everyone and fear nobody," Curtis said, a comment which sums up his own dogged career from player, to lottery manager, to commercial manager, chief executive and now managing director. "This game is about confidence and *self-belief. Defeat never enters* our heads."

Latin homework: Liam Brady (right), who yesterday completed his £100,000 transfer from the Italian club Ascoli to West Ham United, and Billy Bonds train together for the first time. Brady, aged 31, makes his debut against Norwich City tomorrow (Photograph: John Manning).

Hughes injury sparks scare

Northern Ireland are facing a goalkeeping problem as they prepare *to* tackle England in a European Championship qualifying match in Belfast on April 1. Phil Hughes, of Bury, who has succeeded Pat Jennings, dislocated his right shoulder in a training accident and is expected to be out for at least three weeks. If he fails to recover in time the veteran Linfield goalkeeper George Dunlop could be called up.

- The Football Association is to study a video recording before deciding whether or not *to* charge Ian Baird, the Leeds United forward, with bringing the game into disrepute. Baird *denies making a V-sign in the* second divison match at Portsmouth on Tuesday.
- *The Sports Minister*, Richard Tracey, said yesterday that English football supporters were not ready to be allowed back into Europe. "They have first of all got to prove their behaviour is impeccable," he said. "When they are abroad they are ambassadors of this country."
- Tony Berry, the chairman and chief executive of Blue Arrow, has agreed to take a four per cent stake in Tottenham Hotspur. He will join the Spurs board as a non-executive director.
- *The Everton forward*, Graeme Sharp, has been ruled out for the rest of the month after an ankle operation. Meanwhile, Neville Southall, the goalkeeper, who this week had an exploratory operation on his knee, is hoping to face Southampton on Saturday.
- Peterborough United, recently *forced* to shelve plans to switch to an artificial playing surface *next* season, may now sell their London Road ground and develop a *10,000-seat* stadium

A game we have to play to watch

Simon Barnes

They like to call the Yonex All-England Open Championships "the Wimbledon of badminton." You might as well call Port Moresby "the Manhattan of Papua New Guinea." Both Port Moresby and the badminton championships *have* their points, I suppose.

Wembley Arena, that great barn in the 'burbs, has been chopped up *into seven* side-by-side courts: it is wall-to-wall badminton, with the air filled with plink, plink and whop, and, yes, there are even a *few* spectators.

They reckon that four million people play badminton in this *country*. Why aren't they watching their own Wimbledon, then? By the same token, millions of people play squash: but in spectator terms squash is a very small event, indeed.

People *play* squash and *badminton*: but *watch* them? You cannot be serious. People watch tennis. At least, they do in the West.

But the thing about *playing* tennis is that unless you are really rather good, you are very *bad*, *indeed*. You spend all your time collecting balls you have missed. To hold your own service is always the *decisive move*

Inducing a fear of open spaces

However, anyone even slightly sporty can have a *decent* rally *within five minutes* of picking up a badminton or squash racket for the first time. *But no one goes to watch* the game. *Not* in the vast, exciting numbers that promoters love.

The first day of the All-England Badminton Championships induced agoraphobia. They let in school kids free but the place still felt empty.

Channel 4 are *giving* badminton a go by televising the championships. They have done the game a great service already by working out how to make it look good on telly. They have cracked *it* by using *a camera low down in the* corner.

The players look as athletic and clever as they are in real *life*. Suddenly, *badminton* looks like a decent game instead of a pat-ball session. "The modern game bears no relation to the vicarage garden game people associate with the name 'badminton'," Adrian Metcalfe, Channel 4's sports editor, said.

But in the Far East badminton is an enormous sport. *When I was in Indonesia* recently every *remote* village I went to had a badminton court as well as a place for cockfights and dances.

Ever-so British but it is Asian

I must confess that I had always thought that it was strange that *this* British game with the ever-so British name was one of the nation's many sporting exports: and that *Asian* people had taken to *it* because of a remarkable quickness of hand and eye. Not so. A form of badminton *has been depicted on Chinese* pottery dating from 3000BC. Badminton was an Asian game first.

The best players mostly come from Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia and, naturally, China. *There* is phenomenal strength in depth.

Outside Britain, the game's main European stronghold is Denmark: Morten Frost, of Denmark, has won the All-England four times. He is also *that* most incongruous of things, a badminton millionaire.

When his day is over it seems that the balance of power will swing farther East, which will have an inevitable *effect on* badminton's spectator appeal as a world game.

The Americans do not play it. The Brits *do*; they have far more good badminton players than they have good tennis players; and the game is played in church halls and sports centres all over the country. But they will not watch it.

IN BRIEF

N Korea's claim to Olympics

North Korea's football team is refusing to play in the Asian *qualifying* competition for the Olympics because the country claims to be co-hosts of the Games with South Korea.

FIFA may now have to discipline the *North* Koreans since it only recognises South Korea as organisers of the 1988 *Games though the International* Olympic Committee is allowing a small number of events to take place in the North.

Coach stop

Argentina's leading tennis *player*, Gabriela Sabatini, has announced that she is replacing her coach, the Chilean, Patricio Apey, with the Spaniard, Angel Gimenez.

Snow business

The European Cup football quarter-final, first leg tie between Besiktas, of Turkey, and Dynamo Kiev, which has been postponed three times because of snow, *has been switched from* Istanbul to Izmir on Saturday because of snow blanketing Istanbul.

Lopes out

Portugal's Olympic marathon gold medallist, Carlos Lopes, will miss the world cross-country championships — which he has won three times — in Warsaw later this month because of chronic sciatica.

Croft advances

Annabel Croft defeated the American teenager, Elly *Hakami*, 6-2 6-2 in the Junior Slims of Arizona to reach the third round of the tournament.

Well matched

Terry Griffiths meets Neal Foulds *in the Rothmans* Matchroom League tomorrow with both players defending unbeaten records. *Griffiths* leads the league at the moment.

In the swim

A brother and sister, Ian and Lynn Wilson, are *included in* the intermediate international squad announced by England swimming selectors yesterday. The squad will make their first appearance at the Budapest International Meeting from April 1 to 2.

INTERMEDIATE SQUAD: Girls: T Atkin (City of Lincoln), K Edbrooke (Guildford City), C Haddard (Salford), L Masters (Wigan Wasps), P Rickard (City of Newcastle), D Tubby (Norwich Penguins), N Williams (Stockport Metro), L Wilson (Borough of Sunderland). Boys: C Cockcroft (City of Leeds), R Greenwood (City of Leeds), M Duffy (City of Newcastle), M Templeton (City of Newcastle), A Fitzgerald (Borough of Southend), D McNulty (Chester-le-Street), R Thorpe (Millfield School), I Wilson (Borough of Sunderland).

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA): Boston Celtics 118 Phoenix Suns 109; Detroit Pistons 107, Indiana Pacers 98; Philadelphia 76ers 117, Chicago Bulls 108; Milwaukee Bucks 115, Washington Bullets 107, Dallas Mavericks 130, Seattle SuperSonics 117; Denver Nuggets 122, *Utah Jazz* 116; Golden State Warriors 121, Los Angeles Clippers 111.
BRITISH MASTERS TROPHY: Second elimination round, first leg: Calderdale Explorers 105 (Blunt 27), Falkirk 77 (Strickland 28); Happy Eater Bracknell Pirates 107 (Andrews 31), Polycell Kingston 125 (Clark 38, Bontrager 27).
RONCHETTI CUP: Final: Daugawa Riga (USSR) 87, Femminile Milan (It), 80.
MOSCOW: Men's European Champion Clubs' Cup: Semi-final group match: *Zalgiris Kaunas* (USSR) bt Orthez (Fr), 94-84.

BIATHLON

VINGROM, Norway: 20km men's world *championship*: 1, M Jacob (EG), 54min 44.2sec (one penalty); 2, F P Roetsch (EG), 54:55.8 (one); 3, A Sehmisch (EG), 56:04.2 (two); 4, E Reiter (WG), 56:23.2 (one); 5, T Piiroinen (Fin) 56:39.4 (one); 6, J Passler (It), 56:50.2 (one); 7, H Eloranta (Fin), 57:56.4 (two); 8, H Fritzenwenger (WG), 58:02.2 (one); *9, E Kvalfoss (Nor)*, 58:09.5 (three); *10*, J Matous (Cz), 58:20.8 (three). Overall positions: 1 Roetsch, *181pts* 2, Matous, *166* 3 V Medvedtsev (USSR), 163, F Fischer (WG), 163, 5, A Popov (USSR), 154 6, Kvalfoss, 142 7, Sehmisch, 136 8, D Vassilyev (USSR), 131, 9, E Reiter (WG), 128; 10, Jacob, 126.

BOXING

COSENZA, Italy: European super-featherweight title: Jean Marc Renard (Bel, holder) bt Antonio Renzo (It), 7th.

CRICKET

HARARE: Three-day *match*: Final day: *Zimbabwe* B 331 for 7 dec and 154 *for 8* declared (Arnott 54, Ali Shah 42; Nadeem *Ghauri 3 for 23, Zakir Khan 3 for 27*). *Pakistan* B 221 (Amir Akbar 117, Malcolm Jarvis 4 for 71) and 265 for 7 (Sajid Ali 89, Shaukat Mirza 105). Pakistan won by 3wkts.

CYCLING

LATINA, Italy: 8km individual timed prologue to Tyrrhenian-Adriatic race (Italians unless stated): 1, L Piasecki (Pol), *9min 10sec*; 2, E Vanderaerden (Bel), 12sec behind; 3, G *Bontempi* 13; 4, *T Rominger (Switz)*, *18*; 5, G Calcaterra, 18; 6, S Contini 23; 7, G Saronni, 28 8 R Golz (WG) 9 *R Sorensen (Den) both* 28 behind; 10, A Peiper (Aus), 11, R Visentini; 12, G Petito, all 29 behind; 13, E Pedersen (Nor); 14 D Cassani, both 31 behind; 15, U Freuler (Switz), 33.
TOULON: Paris to Nice race: Fourth stage (193km): 1, J-F Bernard (Fr), 5hr 25min 12sec; 2, T *Marie* (Fr), 5:25:44; 3, F *Munoz* (Sp), 5:28:12; 4, S Kelly (Ire), 5:28:12; 5, E Boyer (Fr), *5:28:14*; 6, *S Roche* (Ire), 5:28:14; 7, L Fignon (Fr), 5:28:20; 8 I Gaston (Sp), 5:28:22; 9, *R Pensec* (Fr), 5:28:22; *10*, *J R Magro* (Sp), 5:28:22. British: 13, R Millar (GB), 5:28:22. Overall: 1, *Bernard*, 18hr 47min 50sec; 2, Roche, at 45sec; 3, Kelly, 1:14; 4, Fignon, 1:39; 5, *Boyer*, 1:45; 6, *Pensec*, 2:06; 7, U Zimmermann (Switz), 2:18; 8, *Millar*, 2:31; 9, N Ruttimann (Switz), 2:39; 10, Y Madiot (Fr), 3:05

FOOTBALL

Wednesday night's results
FULL MEMBERS CUP: Semi-final: Blackburn 3, Ipswich 0.
THIRD DIVISION: *Bristol Rovers* 0, *Walsall* 3.
FOURTH DIVISION: Northampton 1, Scunthorpe 0.
SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Morton 2, Kilmarnock 1; Queen of the South 4, Clyde 1.
SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Stranraer 1, St Johnstone 1
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Hull 1, Everton 0, Newcastle 0, Aston Villa 4. Second division: *Blackpool* 3, Bolton 2; York 3, Preston 1; West Brom 4, Darlington 1. Postponed: Stoke v Port Vale.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Swindon 4, Brighton 1.
CAPITAL LEAGUE: President's Cup: Semi-final: Orient 2, Wycombe 4.
GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Kettering 1, *Barnet* 1, *Welling* 3, Sutton 1.
MULTIPART LEAGUE: Gainsborough 2, *Oswestry* 1, *Worksop* 1, *Chorley* 1.
FA TROPHY: Fourth round replay: Burton 1, *Maidstone 0*.
FA YOUTH CUP: Quarter-final: Watford 0, Coventry 2.
M and B MIDLANDS FLOODLIT CUP: Shepshed Charterhouse 4, *Nuneaton* 3.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Bill Dellow Cup: Fourth round: Male Oak 1, Hednesford 2. Midland division: Leicester Utd 3, Leamington 0; Wellingborough 0, Halesowen 2.
VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: AC Delco Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Yeovil 0, Hendon 2. Second division north: Royston 0, Hertford 1. Second division south: Horsham 0, Woking 5; *Petersfield* 0, Dorking 1, *Ruislip Manor* 2, Molesey 0.
HOME COUNTIES FA YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP: Middlesex 0, London 0.
SOVIET LEAGUE: *Dynamo* Moscow 1, Zhalgiris Vilnius 0

SPANISH CUP: Quarter-finals, second legs: Real Sociedad 10, Mallorca Atletico 1 (agg: *10-1*); *Real Mallorca* 1, *Atletico Madrid* 3 (agg 1-4); Logrones 1, Athletic Bilbao 0 (agg: 1-2); *Real Madrid* 4, Osasuna 1 (agg: 6-2).
DUTCH CUP: Qualifying matches: Vitesse 1, De Graafschap 1 (Vitesse won on penalties); VVV 1, Fortuna Sittard 2, DS '79 2, Utrecht 1; Den Bosch 2, PSV Eindhoven 2 (Den Bosch won on penalties), Sparta 0, Ajax 0 (Ajax won on penalties). Postponed: Groningen v Geldrop.
FRENCH LEAGUE: Auxerre 1, Brest 0; Lens 0, *Bordeaux 0*; *Lille 0*, *Toulouse 0*, *Marseille 3*, Metz 2, Monaco 0, Racing Club Paris 0; Paris *Saint-Germain* 1, *Toulon* 1; *Le Havre* 1, Nantes 0; Nancy 1, Nice 0; Laval 2, Saint-Etienne 1; Sochaux 1, Rennes 1. Leading positions: 1, Bordeaux, p26, pts37; 2, Marseille, 26, 37; 3, Toulouse, 26, 31.
BELGIAN CUP: FC Liege 1, FC Bruges 1 (Liege win 3-2 on agg). Seraing 0, Mechlin 0 (Mechlin win 3-0 on agg). Waterschei 2, Beringen 1 (Waterschei win 2-1 on agg); *Anderlecht 0, Standard Liege 0* (agg: 0-0. Anderlecht win 4-3 on pens).

WEIGHTLIFTING

BUDAPEST: Women's Pannonia Cup: British placings: 48kg: 2, M Hughes. 52kg: 1, P Haughton; 4, D Denham. 56kg: 1, M Forsyth; 3, H Alison. 60kg: 3, D Lewis; 4, M Pickles. 67.5kg: C Starling. 75kg: 3, M Lynes; 4, S Smith.

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL): Calgary Flames 6, Hartford Whalers 1; New York Rangers 3, Boston Bruins 2; Philadelphia Flyers 6, New Jersey Devils 4; St Louis Blues 3, Chicago *Blackhawks* 2; Winnipeg Jets 2, Montreal Canadiens 1, Toronto Maple *Leafs* 4, *Minnesota North Stars* 2; Edmonton Oilers 6, Detroit Red Wings 3, Buffalo Sabres 3, Los Angeles Kings 2.

MOTOR RALLYING

POVOA DE VARZIM, *Portugal*: *Portuguese* rally: First leg: 1, M Alen (Fin), Lancia Delta, 1hr 44min 02sec; 2, J Ragnotti (Fr), Renault 11 Turbo, 17sec behind; 3, M Biasion (It), Lancia Delta, 0:22; 4, J Kankkunen (Fin), Lancia Delta, 0:51; 5, K Eriksson (Swe), VW Golf, 2:18 6, T Salonen (Fin), Mazda 323, 3:39; 7, I Carlsson (Swe), *Mazda* 323, 4:25, 8, E Weber (WG) VW Golf, 4:31, 9, F Chatriot (Fr), Renault 11 *Turbo*, 4:46; *10*, J Santos (Port), Ford Sierra, 7:34.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Oldham 15, Warrington 14; Bradford 20, Hull 20; Leeds 0, Wigan 30.

TABLE TENNIS

OREBRO: Swedish Masters tournament: Final: Yoo Nam Kyo (S Korea) bt L Kucharski (Pol), 21-18, 21-16, 21-19.

RUGBY UNION

Wednesday night's results
CLUB MATCHES: Ebbw Vale 10, Newport 16; Swansea 37, Bridgend 13; Maesteg 17, Glamorgan Wanderers 12; Pontypridd 7, South Glamorgan Institute 16; Moseley 28, Loughborough Colls 3; Tredegar 3, Newbridge 17.
ALDERSHOT: Army Cup: 7th Regiment RHA 25, Welsh Guards 16.

SKIING

LANS EN VERCORS, France: Europa Cup: Women's slalom: 1, M Maierholer (Austria), *1min 18.22sec*; 2, *D Mogore (Fr)*, 1:18.73; 3, C Nilsson (Swe), 1:18.89. British placing: L Beck, 1:20.13.
HAKUBA, Japan: Far East Cup: Men's slalom (After two races, Japanese unless stated): 1, T Okabe, 1min 45.79sec; 2, P Accola (Switz), 1:48.12; 3, C Isnoka, 1:49.19; 4, J Sundqvist (Swe), 1:49.42; 5, R Zoller (Austria), 1:49.43; 6, A Villard (Can), 1:49.52; 7, E Riedsperger (Austria), *1:50.30*; *8*, Y Sato, *1:50.65*; 9, J Read (Can), 1:50.71; 10, G Neuneister (Swe), 1:50.75.

SPEED SKATING

INZELL, West Germany: Women's World Cup Finals: 500m: 1, B Blair (US), 39.85sec; 2, I Haringa (Neth), 40.92; 3, C Aaftink (Neth), 41.21; 4, K Kania (EG), 41.30. Final positions: 1, *Blair*, 175pts; 2, *Haringa*, 133; 3, E-T Hoseth (Nor), 123; 4, Aaftink, 115. 1,500m: 1, Y van Gennip (Neth), *2min 06.01sec* (national record); 2, B Blair (US), 2:07.07; 3, N Gresner (Can), 2:08.46; 4, K Class (US), 2:09.04. Final positions: 1, van Gennip, 118pts; 2, M Stam (Neth), 102; 3, L Bader (US) and K Class (US), 93.

SQUASH RACKETS

PARIS: French Open championships (GB unless stated): Singles: Women: First round: S Devoy (NZ) bt F Roberts (Br), 13-16, 15-9, 17-16, 15-11; E Irving (Aus) bt D Caldwell (SA), 15-13, 15-11, 15-9; M Le Moignan bt R Strauss, 15-6, 15-7, 15-8; A Smith bt J Leeth, 15-10, 15-11, 15-12; L Soutter bt S Burgess, 12-15, 15-13, 15-10, 17-16; S Bradley (Aus) bt *A Cummings*, 15-13, 15-12, 15-9; *C Kennewell* (Aus) bt C Clonda (Aus), 15-8, 15-8, 15-13; L Opie bt B Hoogendoorn (Neth), 15-2, 17-16, 13-15, 15-6. Men: Second round: S Hailstone bt Umar Hyatt Khan (Pak), 7-15, 15-10, 15-12, 11-15, 15-6; S Davenport (NZ) bt Jansher Khan (Pak), 15-9, 15-11, 15-14; T Nancarrow (Aus) bt A Wahlstedt (Swe), 11-15, 15-12, 15-12, 15-12.

TENNIS

BRAMHALL: Tate and Lyle British women's tournament: Singles: Final: A Grunfeld (Lancs) bt K Hand (Berks), 2-6, 7-6, ret.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Conditions Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) -	Weather (5pm) °C
AUSTRIA							
Kitzbühel	45	190	*good*	*varied*	*good*	*fine*	-6
Excellent skiing conditions							
St Anton	75	360	good	varied	good	fine	-2
Great piste skiing							
FRANCE							
La Plagne	80	130	good	*varied*	*icy*	fine	-2
Skiing good, but more snow needed							
Megève	20	135	*fair*	*powder*	*poor*	fine	0
New snow on hard base							
SWITZERLAND							
Davos	100	195	good	varied	good	fine	-2
Excellent skiing on pistes							
Grindelwald	30	135	good	varied	worn	*sun*	0
Excellent skiing upper pistes							
Mürren	*70*	*150*	*good*	*good*	*crust*	*fine*	-4
Great piste skiing							
Saas-Fee	*80*	*250*	good	*heavy*	*fair*	fine	*1*
Icy patches below 2000m							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

FRANCE

	Depth (cm) Min	*Depth (cm)* Max
Haute Savoie/Savoie		
Les Arcs	75	210
Notre Dame de Bellecombe	40	100
Les Carroz	45	205
Chamonix	30	250
Châtel	105	155
La Clusaz	15	200
Le Corbier	50	100
Courchevel	135	200
Flaine	110	210
Les Gets	50	100
Les Menuires	70	220
Morzine-Avoriaz	35	180
La Rosière	150	255
St Gervais	60	140
Tignes	170	215
Val Cenis	50	100
Val d'Isère	150	200
Valfréjus	50	150
Valloire	50	*130*
Valmorel	80	150
Val Thorens	185	245
Isère		
Alpe d'Huez	120	215
Auris	50	80
Autrans	50	100
Les Deux Alpes	85	285
Alpes du Sud		
Isola 2000	95	135
Montgenèvre	60	100
Les Orres	20	80
Pra Loup	20	45
Risoul 1850	50	65
Serre Chevalier	10	60
Vars	30	50
Pyrénées		
Les Angles	20	50
Barèges	10	100
Cauterets	40	140
Font Romeu	15	25

- Information supplied by the French Government Tourist Office.

GOLF

Watson waits to overcome slump

From John Ballantine, Orlando, Florida

It is now nearly three years *since Tom Watson, who teed off* early under grey skies in the Hertz Classic in Orlando yesterday, *won a tournament*. The Western Open, in the summer of 1984, was Watson's last victory — the *sixteenth* in his American career since he turned professional in *1971*.

The 37-year-old Kansas City professional has also won five Open titles, as well as the 1982 *US Open, more than $4 million* in prize-money and has been America's "player of the year" on *six* occasions, and *there are* those of his peers who say that it is only a matter of time before he wins again. "Tom is too good a player not to win many more times," Nicklaus *said in Miami* two weeks ago.

Watson himself explained some of his problems before he teed off at Bay Hill yesterday, in company with the defending champion Dan Forsman and Larry Nelson, the former Ryder Cup player. "I'm going through the worst slump of my career," he admitted. "I feel I can still *play* well and then I perform poorly. It's frustrating but we all *go through it*."

"It's *like ironing* a shirt, which I have to do when I'm on the road," he added, "I get one *side perfect and the other side* is wrinkled. When I turn it over and iron out the wrinkles it's the *other side that gets* wrinkled. My golf swing is like that. I get one part fixed and something else goes wrong. Also I used to be able to walk up to a 50-foot putt, see the line and say 'there it is'. I can't do that now."

The early leader in the Hertz Classic, on the par 71 Bay Hill *course*, *was Brad Faxon, the* 25-year-old from New Jersey who now lives in Orlando. He displayed his local knowledge in scoring five birdies in a round of 66.

His friend and house-guest, Steve Pate, of California, hit a 67 with Isao Aoki, of Japan, on 69.

Sandy Lyle had three birdies from the fourth to go two under, but struggled later.

EARLY FIRST ROUND LEADERS (US *unless stated*): 66: B *Faxon*; 67: S Pate; 69: I Aoki (Japan); 70: C Byrum, B Gardner; 71: M Hayes; 72: L Hinkle; 73: V Heafner, D Pooley; 74: J Haas, D Love; 77: J C Snead, G Hallberg, N Price (South Africa).

CURRENT MONEY LIST: 1, *C Pavin*, $311,865; 2, L Wadkins, $264,825; 3, M Calcavecchia, $235,025; 4 B Langer (WG) $200,296. Other Europeans: 16, S Ballesteros (Sp), $95,738; 35 K Brown (GB), $47,268; 51, A Lyle (GB) $34,120; 180, P Parkin (GB),$1,152.

ICE SKATING

Conway ends on high note in final figure

From John Hennessy Cincinnati

Joanne Conway, the young British *figure skating* champion, fulfilled all her expectations by finishing tenth in the compulsory *figures of her first* world championship. For all that she is the youngest skater among those who *matter she ended on a high* note with three first places in the final figure. It was an agreeable way to celebrate *her sixteenth* birthday.

She *seems*, somehow, to belong in this company, rather than languishing anonymously like some little girl lost, as most skaters do on their initiation into this heady atmosphere. This, no doubt, is a by-product of training under such distinguished mentors as Carlo and Christa Fassi at Colorado Springs, side by side with Jill Trenary, the *United States* champion, and Caryn Kadavy, the third American representative after Debi Thomas, the holder of the title.

Miss Trenary came here with a heavy weight of national expectancy hanging over her, after beating Miss Thomas for the American title, and it proved too great a burden. Her first and third figures were wretched and she lies one place behind the young Briton.

The highlight of the original set pattern dance was the victory of Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko over the holders and fellow Muscovites, Natalya Bestemianova and Andrei Bukin. It was heartening to see their superior technique juridically rewarded.

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Women's compulsory figures: 1, K Ivanova (USSR), 0.6pts; 2, D Thomas (US), 1.2; 3, C Leistner (WG), 1.8; 4, C Kadavy (US), 2.4; 5, K Witt (EG), 3.0; 6, E Manley (Can), 3.6. British placing: 10, J Conway, 6.0. Ice Dance Original Set Pattern: 1, Miss M Klimova and S Ponomarenko (USSR), 0.4 points; 2, N Bestemianova and A Bukin (USSR), 0.8; 3, Miss T Wilson and R McCall (Can), 1.2; 4, Miss N Annenko and G Sretenski (USSR) 1.6; 5, Miss S Semanick and S Gregory (US), 2.0; 6, Miss K Beck and C Beck (Austria), 2.4. British Placing: Miss S Jones and P Askham, 13. After two events: 1, Bestemianova and Bukin, 1.4 points; 2, Klimova and Ponomarenko, 1.6; 3, Wilson and McCall, 3.0; 4, Annenko and Sretensky, 4.0; 5, Semanick and Gregory, 5.0; 6, Beck and Beck, 6.0.

CRICKET

Rain stops efforts to start Test

From Richard Streeton
Christchurch
New Zealand

All efforts to start the third *Test match* between New Zealand and West Indies here yesterday were finally abandoned *by the umpires* half an hour after the scheduled tea interval. By then the ground was bathed in warm sunshine and two and a half hours of cricket were possible but several damp patches on the outfield had still not dried.

The rain had finally ceased after two days at lunchtime and the pitch, inevitably *underprepared*, emerged dry from under the covers. The familiar story, however, of an *adjoining pitch*, which was *left* soaked when a covering tarpaulin *leaked*, was the main problem for groundstaff.

Once this dried there were still soggy areas near the boundary edges. With only a handful of spectators to consider the *umpires consulted the captains* before announcing their decision. To bat would have *meant* 'the rough end of the pineapple' in the local phrase. New Zealand, who need to win this match to square the series, were willing to play: West Indies were *not*.

Both Bob Vance and Graham Dowling, the chairman and executive *director* of the New Zealand Cricket Council, disagreed with the umpires, whose decision they felt was premature. Vance said: "If you can play at all, I think you should. I know *some* other countries in the world where we would have played."

WEST INDIES: V Richards (capt), G Greenidge, D Haynes, L Gomes, R Richardson, G Logie, J Dujon, M Marshall, J Garner, C Butts, A Gray, C Walsh.
NEW ZEALAND: J Coney (capt), J Wright, P Horne, M Crowe, J Crowe, D Patel, J Bracewell, R Hadlee, I Smith, S Boock, M Snedden, E Chatfield.

ROWING

Hampton retain title

Hampton School *retained* their title in yesterday's Schools' Head of the River on the Tideway by a narrow margin. Hampton had only four-hundredths of a second to spare against Emanuel (*Jim Railton* writes).

Hampton not only took the head pennant for the third successive year but also the British Airways Challenge. The *Hampton School Eight* received free return tickets for a week's trip to Hong Kong to represent *British schools* in the International Schools' Classic over 1,500 metres on the Shin Mun on *April 11* as the prize.

St Edward's retained *their* third place almost nine seconds ahead of Royal Shrewsbury.

RESULTS: Schools Head of the River Eights: 1, Hampton, 7min 39.2sec; 2, Emanuel, 7:39.6; 3, St Edward's, 7:48.3; 4, Shrewsbury, 7:52.2; 5, St George's, 7:53.5; 6, Pangbourne, 7:53.8; 7, Eton, 7:54.4; 8, Eton B, 7:55; 9, King's, Canterbury, 7:56.3; 10, Latymer Upper, 7:56.8; 11, Bedford, 7:59.7; 12, Kingston GS, 8:00.2; 13, Hampton B, 8:00.6; 14, Abingdon, 8:01.7; 15, *Tiffin*, 8:03.2; 16, St Edward's B, 8:04.2; 17, Eton C, 8:04.6; 18, Winchester, *8:07.2*; 19, *Canford*, 8:07.6; 20, Abingdon B, 8:08.6. Eights Pennant Winners: *Head Crew Hampton*, 2 Eight Hampton B. Small Schools Trophy: Winchester. J 16 St Edward's B, J16 Westminster B, J14 St Edward's G, J15 Restricted St Edward's *E*, J14 Restricted St Edward's H. Junior Women: King James's. Junior 16 Women: Kingston GS E. J Coxless Fours: Becket. J16: *King's B*, J15 Sir William Borlase D, J15 restricted Windsor Boys C, Junior Women coxed fours: Eleanor Holles, Junior 16 Women Kingston GS C; Junior Coxless Quadruple Sculls: Hampton Junior 15 quad, Westminster *B*, Junior 14 quad King's Canterbury.

مكبر من الاصل

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Edited by Peter Dear
and Christopher Davalle

Celluloid's enigma variations

Love turmoil: Tim Woodward and Kim Thomson in A Killing on the Exchange (ITV 9pm)

CHOICE

● Between the words "action" and "cut", what happens in cinema, according to the Russian director Andrei Tarkovsky, is the fixing of reality and the preservation of time. Arena (BBC2, 9.30pm) pays tribute to Tarkovsky, who died recently, by juxtaposing extracts from his work with interviews given by him. For Tarkovsky cinema was an enigma. Nevertheless, he was certain of one or two things: that it is an art form and that it is possible through it to connect with spiritual elements. Being both so personal and Russian, his films are as far away as it is possible to get from the Hollywood machine. Their inspiration is frequently autobiographical, and, saturated in memories as they are, they use fantasy and dream to visionary effect. They are also notably tactile with images often flooded with water, fire or light. Their most distinctive feature is a slow movement through a highly choreographed space: never has a camera travelled with such delicate attentiveness. Tarkovsky inevitably found disfavour with the Russian authorities and was driven, reluctantly, to the West where he found it no easier to work. In this useful summary and introduction (*Andrei Rublev* will be shown shortly on television), he acknowledges that what concerns him are characters under ethical or moral pressure.

● In the 1940s, Hollywood thrillers were studio-bound and highly stylized in appearance thanks mainly to a lot of expatriates who had received their schooling in German Expressionism. It rained so much in these films that one wonders if their climate wasn't a product of nostalgia for the wetter weather of Europe. The Naked City (Channel 4, 11.15pm) changed all that in 1948 by taking a camera out into the streets of New York during a heatwave. Although highly influential in its time, it is now more of academic than actual interest. Better all round is **Private Hell 36** (BBC2, 11.35pm) which concludes the Ida Lupino season. This low-budget thriller was partly written and produced by Lupino, who also stars. It was directed by proficient B-picture director Don Siegel, the only man who persuaded Ronald Reagan to play a villain.

Chris Petit

Hot foot on the murder trail: Don Taylor in the 1948 thriller Naked City, filmed entirely on the streets of New York (Ch4, 11.15pm)

BBC1

6.00 Ceefax AM. 6.55 Weather.

7.00 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson, and Jeremy Paxman. National and international news at **7.00, 7.30, 8.00** and **8.30;** regional news and traffic reports at **7.15, 7.45** and **8.15;** weather at **7.25, 7.55** and **8.25.**

8.40 Watchdog. Lynn Faulds Wood and John Stapleton investigate consumer complaints **8.55** Regional news and weather.

9.00 News and weather **9.05 Day to Day.** With Robert Kilroy-Silk. **9.45 Advice Line** with Paul Clark and Eileen Evason.

10.00 News and weather **10.05** *Neighbours. (r)* **10.25** Children's BBC presnted by Phillip Schofield. **10.30 Play School. 10.50 The Wombles.**

10.55 Five to Eleven. Leonard Fenton with a thought for the day **11.00** News and weather **11.05 Your Life in Their** *Hands. Lisa Louth has an* operation to straighten a badly twisted back. (r) **11.35 Open Air** includes the result and analysis of the voting at the Truro By-Election. News and weather at 12.00 **12.55** Regional news and weather.

1.00 One O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. Weather **1.25 Neighbours.** The burglary at the Ramsay house leads to a new man in Maria's life **1.50 Mop and Smiff.** (r)

2.05 The Liver Birds. Comedy series starring Nerys Hughes and Elizabeth Estansen. (r) **2.35 Knots Landing.** Chip becomes romantically involved with Ciji while courting and using Diana **3.25 Box Clever.** Family quiz game presented by Emlyn Hughes.

3.50 *Corners. More esoteric fact* come to light **4.10 Yogi Bear.** Cartoon series. (r) **4.15 Jackanory.** Sarah Greene with part five of The Hundred and One Dalmatians. (r) **4.30** Think It..Do It. Johnny Ball looks behind the scenes of the making of the film, Superman IV.

4.55 Newsround Extra. John Craven is in Austria with a report on the Uphill Ski Club **5.05 Grange Hill.** Episode 20. (Ceefax) **5.35 The Flintstones.**

6.00 Six O'Clock Show with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell. Weather.

6.35 London Plus.

7.00 Wogan. Tonight's guest list includes George Peppard; Edward Woodward and Michelle Dotrice; and David Attenborough. Music is provided by the Kodo Drummers from Japan.

7.35 Blankety Blank. Joining Les Dawson are Cheryl Baker, Lynda Baron, Joe Brown, Norman Collier, Belinda Lang, and Chris Serle. (r) (Ceefax)

8.10 Dynasty. Clay Fallmont receives an unwelcome *surprise from his lover,* Sammy Jo. (Ceefax)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Julia Somerville and Andrew Harvey. Regional news and weather.

9.30 The Secret Servant. Episode two of the three-part espionage drama starring Charles Dance. (r) (Ceefax)

10.25 Opening the Windows. The late Sir Hugh Greene talks about his nine years as Director-General of the BBC.

11.05 World Figure Skating Championships. The Men's Free Programme.

11.40 Film: The Stoolie (1972) starring Jackie Mason as Roger Pittman, a New Jersey drug pusher and police informer who takes off with police money for a new life in *Florida only to find that his* police contact has turned in his badge and gone off in hot pursuit of his former 'stoolie'. directed by John G Avildsen.

1.10 Weather.

Finger on the button: Kate Lee, the voice behind David Bellamy's computer-with-the-heart-of-gold. Bellamy's Bugle (ITV, 5pm)

BBC 2

6.55 Open University: Science - Drifting Continents. Ends at **7.20 9.00 Ceefax.**

9.30 Daytime on Two: problem solving in the world of technology and design **9.57** Part seven of Fair Ground! **10.15** Scotland: the Heart of the Highlands **10.38** Stevenage new town **11.00** A 15-year old French boy celebrates his birthday **11.17** Spinning yarn **11.40** *Haddon* Hall, a Tudor house near Bakewell.

12.00 Shakespeare - Twelfth Night and Macbeth **12.32** Culture clashes for racially mixed teenagers growing up in Britain **1.05** Young people who are catching the public eye **1.33** The ethical issues involved in a test-tube birth **2.00 News** and weather **2.02** For four- and five-year olds.

2.20 The President's Star Warriors. The development of President Reagan's Strategic Defence. (r)

3.00 News and weather

3.03 World Figure Skating Championships. The Men's Free Programme.

3.50 News, regional news, and weather.

4.00 Pamela Armstrong.

4.25 Bazaar. (r)

4.55 *Delia Smith's One is Fun.* Three recipes for those cooking for one. (r)

5.10 Horizon: Police Stress - The John Wayne Syndrome. (r)

6.00 Film: The Adventures of Neeka (1970) A made-for-television tale involving that canny canine, Lassie. Directed by Dick Moder and Richard Hively.

7.10 Under Sail. With sea cadets as they sail the square rigger, Royalist, in a race from Margate to Zeebrugge. (r)

7.30 Ebony includes a report from the Radio London Reggae Awards.

8.00 On the Road. John Diamond meets Stan Flashman, ticket tout and chairman of Barnet FC; Diane Kenwood investigates the state of the Green Party in the south-east; and Glyn Worsnip joins the Kentish man who has the largest collection of prams.

8.30 Gardeners' World from Italy. Roy Lancaster visits the Villa Taranto set in 100 acres of hillside overlooking Lake Maggiore.

9.00 Now - Something Else Again. *Comedy impressions from* Rory Bremner and his team. (r)

9.30 Arena: Tarkovsky's Cinema. A review of the life and work of the Russian film-maker Andrei Tarkovsky. (see Choice)

10.30 Facing Up to Aids. The first *of a new series presented by* Angharad Mair and John Nicolson.

10.45 Newsnight 11.30 Weather.

11.35 Film: Private Hell 36* (1954) starring Ida Lupino, Steve Cochran, and Howard Duff. (see Choice) Ends at **1.10**

ITV/LONDON

6.15 TV-am introduced by Mike Morris. Weather at **6.28** and **6.58;** news at **6.30;** sport at **6.40;** and exercises at **6.55.**

7.00 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Richard Keys. News at **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** and **9.00;** cartoon at **7.25;** sport at **7.40;** pop music at **7.55;** and Jimmy Greaves's television highlights at **8.35.** *After Nine* includes a recorded interview with Paul Newman; Russell Grant's astrology; and, at **9.17,** exercises with Lizzie Webb.

9.25 Thames news headlines.

9.30 Schools: the natural history of ordinary surroundings **9.47** The installation of domestic electricity **10.09** Junior maths - producing number patterns and codes **10.26** The dangers of dirt **10.50** German for 13- to 15-year-olds **11.15** How potatoes are made into crisps **11.27** The art of the signwriter **11.44** Uses of computers.

12.00 Orm and Cheep. (r) **12.10 Rainbow.** Learning with puppets **12.30 A Sense of the Past.** The history of funerary architecture. (r). **NB: If the result of the Truro By-Election is announced this** ***programme will be*** **postponed.**

1.00 News at One with Leonard Parkin **1.20 Thames news.**

1.30 Film: Houseboat (1958) starring Cary Grant and Sophia Loren. Romantic comedy about a widower who *falls for the woman looking* after his three children. Directed by Melville Shavelson. **3.25 Thames news headlines 3.30 Sons and Daughters.**

4.00 Rainbow. A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10 **4.15 Batfink.** (r) **4.20** T-Bag **Bounces Back 4.45 Dangermouse.** Animated adventures of a secret service rodent. (r) **5.00 Bellamy's Bugle.** David Bellamy's conservation series.

5.15 Connections. Quiz game for sixth formers, presented by Sue Robbie.

5.45 News with Alastair Stewart.

6.00 The 5 O'Clock Show presented by Michael Aspel.

7.00 The Newlywed Game. Gloria Hunniford questions three newly-wed couples on how little they know of their respective partner.

7.30 *International Athletics: The* **Kodak Classic.** England v the United States, live from RAF Cosford. Alan Parry and Peter Matthews provide the commentary. (continues on Channel 4 at 9.00)

8.30 Running Wild. Max has now left his wife and family and settles himself in a flat where he decides to throw a rock and roll party. But he soon realises that middle age is not the time to indulge in hectic exertions. Starring Ray Brooks and Janet Kay. (Oracle)

9.00 *A Killing* **on the Exchange.** Episode two of the thriller set in the world of high finance involving the death of a merchant banker and the *acrimonious merger of two* chemical giants. Starring John Duttine, Gavan O'Herlihy, and *Tim Woodward. (Oracle)*

10.00 News at Ten with Carol Barnes and Alastair Stewart.

10.30 The London Programme. A report on the rural poor of the south-east whose plight has *increased with rocketing* house prices and high-tech *employment. Followed by* LWT News headlines.

11.05 South of Watford. Hugh Laurie discovers that a shoe is something more than a mere object into which to stick your foot.

11.30 Ice Skating. The World Figure Skating Championships from Cincinnati.

12.30 New From London. Tokyo Blades in concert. Ends at **1.25.**

Alternative man of chat: Host and interviewer Jonathan Ross brings his own individual style to late-night viewing (Ch4, 10.30pm)

CHANNEL 4

2.15 Their Lordships' House. (r)

2.30 Passage to Britain. The West Indians are the subject of this sixth programme in the series looking at the history of immigration to Britain. The optimistic post-war intake, arriving to alleviate the labour shortage, were soon disillusioned by the reception they received. Writer C.L.R.James, social worker *Pauline Crabe, and black* activist Roy Sawh, reflect on their fate. (r)

3.00 Ice Skating. The World Figure Skating Championships from the Riverside Coliseum, Cincinnati, featuring the climax of the Men's competition - the free programme. Plus, highlights of the Ladies' short programme.

4.30 Countdown. Simon Smith from Nottingham challenges yesterday's winner.

5.00 Car 54, Where Are You?* Vintage American comedy series starring *Joe E Ross* and Fred Gwynne as two hapless New York policemen.

5.30 The Tube presented by Jools Holland and Paula Yates. Appearing tonight are Janet Jackson; Grace Jones; Vow Wow, a heavy metal band *from Japan; Chiefs of Relief;* Horse, a Glasgow band; and Hulu, a band from Sheffield.

7.00 Channel 4 News with Peter Sissons and Anne Perkins. Weather.

7.50 Book Choice. Claire Tomalin discusses V.S.Naipaul's new novel, The Enigma of Arrival.

8.00 Court Report: Australia. Godfrey Hodgson introduces this special programme presenting Mr Justice Powell's judgement in the Peter Wright MI5 case in Sydney. The court hearings will be summarized with extracts taken from the Channel 4 dramatization of the case shown in December and there will be a discussion on the implications of the judgement

9.00 International Athletics. The Kodak Classic between *England and the United States* at RAF Cosford.

10.00 Cheers. Diane lets everybody know she has been invited to dine at a swanky restaurant. Sam decides to get his own back by cancelling her booking - but Diane has the last word.

10.30 The Last Resort with Jonathan Ross. The guests are Tony Blackburn, Marc Almond, Whoudini - a three-man rap group, John Kobal, and Teri Garr

11.15 Film: The Naked City* (1948) starring Barry Fitzgerald and Howard Duff. Thriller about a New York police investigation into the murder of a young woman model. Directed by Jules Dassin. (see Choice)

1.00 What the Papers Say with Paul Foot of the *Daily Mirror.* Ends at **1.15.**

VARIATIONS

BBC1 WALES 5.35pm-6.00 Wales Today **6.35-7.00** Sportsiolo **1.10am-1.15** News and weather **SCOTLAND 10.05am-10.25** Labour Party conference **10.50-11.10** Dotaman **11.05-12.55pm** Labour Party conference **6.35-7.00** Reporting Scotland **10.25-10.55** Left, Right and Centre **10.55-11.05** Willie Hunter's Shetland **NORTHERN IRELAND 5.35pm-5.40** Today's Sport **5.40-6.00** Inside Ulster **6.35-7.00** First Class **1.10am-1.15** News and weather **ENGLAND 6.35pm-7.00** Regional news magazines.

BBC2 WALES: 10.15am-10.38 Outlook **8.00pm-8.30** Public Account. **SCOTLAND: 2.20pm-4.23** Labour Party Conference. **8.00-8.30** Food and Drink. **NORTHERN IRELAND: 10.15am-10.38** Ceefax **8.00pm-8.30** A Question of Sport **ENGLAND: 8.00pm-8.30 East:** East on Two **Midlands:** Life File **North:** Northern Lights **North-east:** Northwards. **North-west:** Now! **South:** South on Two – Inquiry **South-west:** Through the Garden Gate. **West:** Day Out.

ANGLIA As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30** Film: Anne of the Indies* **3.00-3.30** Wish You Were Here...? **5.15-5.45** Blockbusters **6.00-7.00** About Anglia **10.30-11.30** Cross Question **12.30am** Late Night Final, Closedown.

BORDER As London except: **12.30pm-1.00** Truro By-Election **1.20** News **1.30** Wish You Were Here...? **2.00** Film: Tennessee's Partner **3.30-4.00** Young Doctors **6.00** Lookaround **6.30-7.00** *Take the High Road* **10.30-11.30** *Hammer* House of Horror **12.30am** Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30** Film: Sea of Sand* **6.00** News **6.45-7.00** Central Post **10.35** Central Weekend **12.00** Film: Father Figure **1.40am** Jobfinder **2.40** Close.

CHANNEL As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30** Bulman **2.30** Bygones **3.00** Wish You Were Here...? **3.30-4.00** Country GP **5.15-5.45** Blockbusters **6.00** Channel Report **6.25** Weekend Diary **6.30-7.00** Country Ways **10.30** Making Pye **11.00** Film: The Black Windmill **1.00am** Closedown.

Marriage lines: Gloria Hunniford hosts The Newlywed Game (ITV, 7pm)

GRANADA As London except: **1.20pm** Granada Reports **2.00** Tucker's Witch **3.00** Look Who's Talking **3.30-4.00** Young Doctors **6.00** Granada Reports **6.30-7.00** Flying Start **10.30** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **11.00** What the European Papers Say **11.15** Ice Skating **12.15am** Film: Hawkins: Death and the Maiden **1.35** Close

HTV WEST As London except: *1.20pm News 1.30* Film: Red Mountain* **3.00-3.30** Wish You Were Here...? **6.00-7.00** News **10.30-11.30** Weekend Starts Here! **12.30am** Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: **1.20pm** News **1.30** Film: Red Mountain* **3.00-3.30** Wish You Were Here...? **6.00-7.00** News **10.30-11.30** Weekend Starts Here! **12.30am** Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: **1.20pm** *News 1.30 Live at* One-Thirty **2.00** Film: The Impersonator **3.15** Sons and Daughters **3.45-4.00** Trang Trang **5.15-5.45** Blockbusters **6.00** Scotland Today **6.30-7.00** Who's the Boss? **10.30-11.30** Scottish Questions **12.30am** Late Call, Close

TSW As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30** Film: Hunted* **3.30** Wish You Were Here...? **3.30-4.00** Young Doctors **6.00-7.00** Friday Show *10.32-11.30 Kojak 12.30am Postscript* **12.35** Duran Duran Arena **1.31** Closedown.

TVS As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30** Bulman **2.30** Bygones **3.00** Wish You Were Here...? **3.30-4.00** Country GP **5.15-5.45** Blockbusters **6.00** Coast to Coast **6.30-7.00** Challenge of the South **10.30** Facing South **11.00** Film: Black Windmill **1.00am** Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: **12.30pm-1.00** *Truro By-*Election **1.20** News **1.25** Lookaround **1.30** Film: Oregan Trail* **3.00-3.30** Wish You Were Here...? **6.00** Northern Life **6.30-7.00** What Would You Do? **10.32** Extra Time 11.00 **Film: Goodbye Pork Pie** 12.45am **Three's Company, Closedown.**

ULSTER As London except: **1.20pm** Lunchtime **1.30** Film: Support Your Local Sheriff **3.15-3.30** Cartoon **6.00** Good Evening Ulster **6.30-7.00** Password **10.30** Witness **10.35** Sportscast **11.05-11.30** That's Hollywood **12.35am** News, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.25** Help Yourself **1.30** Film: The Very Edge* **3.00-3.30** Wish You Were Here...? **6.00** Calendar **6.30-7.00** Knight Rider **10.30-11.30** Sweeney **12.30am** Jobfinder **1.30** Close

S4C Starts: **11.25am** Ysgolion **12.00** Interval **12.45pm** Down the Line **1.45** Their Lordships' House **2.00** Countdown **2.30** World Alive **3.00** Figure Skating **4.05** 5 Lon Goch **4.20** Smyrffs **4.45** Chwarter Call **5.00** Rhew Poeth 5.30 **The Tube** 7.00 Newyddion Saith **7.30** Ma 'ifan 'ma **8.10** Cyfyng Gyngor **8.40** Y Byd ar Bedwar **9.40** Film: She'll Be Wearing Pink Pyjamas **11.25** Athletics **12.25am** Closedown.

Radio 1

On medium wave. Stereo on VHF (see below)
News on the half-hour from **6.30am** until **8.30pm** then at **10.00** and **12.00**

5.30 Adrian John **7.00** Mike Smith's Breakfast Show **9.30** Simon Bates **12.30** Newsbeat (Frank Partridge) **12.45** Simon Mayo **3.00** Steve Wright **5.30** Newsbeat **5.45** Singled Out **7.00** Andy Peebles **10.00-12.00** The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance

VHF stereo Radios 1 and 2. 4.00am As Radio 1. **10.00pm** As Radio 1. **12.00-4.00am** As Radio 2

Radio 2

On medium wave. Stereo on VHF (see Radio 1).
News on the hour (except **8.00pm, 9.00**). Headlines **5.30am, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30.** Sports Desk **6.32am, 7.31, 8.31, 12.02pm, 1.05, 2.02, 3.02, 4.02, 5.05, 6.02, 6.45** (mf only).

4.00am Colin Berry **5.30** Ray Moore **7.30** Derek Jameson **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.00** Jimmy Young **1.05pm** *Cliff Morgan* **2.00** Gloria Hunniford **4.00** Peter Skellern **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night Mary Maher explores Northamptonshire **9.30** The Organist Entertains **10.00** Black Magic **10.30** Vince Hill's Solid Gold Music Show **11.00** Stuart Hall **1.00am** *Bill Rennells* **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk (until 6.30) 7.00 News 7.09 Twenty-four Hours: News 7.30 The Folk Entertainers 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme 8.00 News 8.09 Reflections 8.15 Loved by the Gods 8.30 *Music Now* 9.00 News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 The World Today 9.30 Financial News, Look Ahead 9.45 Hotel du Lac 10.00 News 10.01 Sing Gospel 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme 10.30 Business Matters 11.00 News 11.09 News About Britain 11.15 In the Meantime 11.25 A Letter From Northern Ireland 12.00 *Radio Newsreel* 12.15 Jazz 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 News 1.09 Twenty-four Hours 1.30 John Peel 2.00 Outlook 2.45 Nature Notebook 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 The European Community 4.00 News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Science in Action 5.00 News 5.09 *Letter* From Northern Ireland 8.00 News 8.09 Twenty-four Hours 8.30 Science in Action 9.00 News 9.01 Network UK 9.15 Music Now 9.45 The *Wind in the Willows* 10.00 *News* 10.09 The World Today 10.25 Letter from Northern Ireland 10.30 Financial News 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 From The Weeklies 11.30 Multitrack 3 12.00 News 12.09 News About Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 About Britain 12.45 Recording of the Week 1.00 News 1.01 Outlook 1.30 Sing Gospel 1.45 Nature Notebook 2.00 News 2.09 The British Press 2.15 Network UK 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 News 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 Vintage Chart Show 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Here's Humph! 5.45 World Today. All times GMT

Radio 3

6.35 Open University (vhf only). Education bulletin.

6.55 Weather **7.00** News

7.05 Morning Concert. Reznicek, Serenade in G *major (Rias Sinfonietta* under Jiri Starek); Griffes, Poem (Eastman-Rochester Orchestra, with Joseph Mariano, flute); Debussy, Ibéria (Images, Third Series No 2) (Orchestre National de la Radiodiffusion Française *under Leopold* Stokowski).

8.00 News

8.05 Telemann, Suite: La bouffonne (Rouen CO under Albert Beauchamp); Jean Françaix, Concertino in G major (LSO under Antal Dorati, with *Claude Françaix, piano);* J. C. Bach, Symphony in D major, Op 18 No 1 (Dutch edition) (ECO under Sir Colin Davis); Ibert, Escales (Paris Orchestra under Daniel Barenboim).

9.00 World Service News

9.10 This Week's Composer: *Bruckner. Psalm 150* (Chicago Symphony Chorus and Orchestra under Daniel Barenboim, with Ruth Welting, soprano); Symphony No 9, in D minor (Berlin PO under Herbert Von Karajan).

10.25 Chansons de Cécile *Chaminade.* Rosemonde; A l'inconnue; Trahison; Malgré nous; Si étais jardinier; Colett; Mignonne; Viens, mon bien-aimé; Chant d'amour; Chanson espagnole. Sung by Dinah Harris (soprano), with Gordon Stewart (piano).

10.55 Langham Chamber Orchestra, under Meredith Davies, plays Jean Françaix's Sei preludi, and Haydn's Symphony No 42, in D.

11.40 Beethoven's Quartet in *G, Op 18 No 2, played* by the Coull String Quartet.

12.05 BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, under Edward Downes, with Mayumi Fujikawa (violin). Part one: Tippet's Ritual Dances (The *Midsummer Marriage),* and Mozart's Violin Concerto No 2, in D (K 211).

1.00 News

1.05 BBC PO. Part two: Dvorak, Symphony No 9, in E minor (From the New World).

1.50 Stanislav Heller (harpsichord) plays D'Anglebert's Suite No 3, in D minor.

2.20 Brahms, orch Schoenberg. Piano *Quartet in G minor, Op 25,* played by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra under Simon Rattle.

3.05 The Cobbett Phantasies (last in series). Howells, Phantasy String Quartet No 25 (Richards Ensemble); *Britten, Phantasy Quartet,* Op 2 (Derek Wickens, oboe, Kenneth Sillito, violin, Ian Jewel, viola, and Keith Harvey, cello; Bridge, Quartet No 2, in G minor (Delmé String Quartet).

4.00 Choral Evensong, recorded at Canterbury *Cathedral.*

5.00 World Service News

5.10 Mainly for Pleasure, presented by Patrick Lambert.

6.55 News

7.00 Apeing Gestures. Colin Blakemore and Professor Herb Terrace *discuss the similarities* and differences between human and animal intelligence.

7.30 Medici String Quartet, with John Bingham (piano), live from the Pebble Mill Studios, Birmingham. Part one: Haydn, *Quartet in E flat,* Op 64 No 6; John Joubert, Quartet No 3 (first performance).

8.20 Ignoble Savages. Professor Helmut Bonheim reflects on the long tradition of South American monsters in European literature.

8.40 Medici String Quartet. Part two: Dvorak, Piano Quintet No 2, in A, Op 81.

9.25 The Fossil, by Carl Sternheim, with Cheryl Campbell, Gerard Murphy and Peter Woodthorpe.

10.30 BBC Singers in Lyons, under John Poole. Byrd, Haec dies; Ave verum corpus; Quomodo cantabimus?; Tallis, Salvator mundi; O nata lux; Gyorgy Ligeti, Drei Phantasien; Gilbert Amy, Récatitif, air et variation; David Bedford, The golden wine is drunk; Schoenberg, Friede auf Erden. (includes interval reading at 11.05).

11.57 News

Radio 4

On long wave (s) stereo on VHF.

5.55 Shipping **6.00** News briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming **6.25** Prayer

6.30 Today, incl **6.30, 7.30,** *8.30 News 6.45* Business news **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.00, 8.00** News **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** Yesterday in Parliament **8.50** Letters **8.57** Weather, Travel

9.00 News

9.05 *Desert Island Discs.* Johnny Mathis in conversation with Michael Parkinson (s)

9.45 Feedback. Christopher Dunkley with listeners' comments, complaints and queries about the BBC

10.00 News; International *Assignment.* BBC correspondents report from around the world

10.30 Morning Story. Leave It To Us, Miss Latham, written and read by Sheila Mitchell.

10.45 Daily Service (New Every Morning, p42)

11.00 News, Travel. Dame Eva at 95. Dame Eva Turner, Britain's first international opera star talks to Sue MacGregor about her long life and career (r)

11.48 Being Human. John Gribbin investigates the *relationship between man* and chimp. 5: War Games. From where does human agression arise?

12.00 News; The Food Programme with Derek Cooper.

12.27 Big Him and the Figaro Club. Six anarchic tales from demob days – 4: Up The Pole. With Norman Rossington as Big Jim.

12.55 Weather

1.00 The World at One. News

1.40 The Archers.

1.55 Shipping

2.00 News. Woman's Hour with Jenni Murray. We'll never give up . . : The controversial Doman-Delecato treatment of brain-damaged children.

3.00 News; Martin Chuzzlewit, by Charles Dickens in 10 parts. 6: The Anglo Bengalee, with Valentine Pelka in the lead role and Simon Cadell as the storyteller (r) (s)

4.00 News

4.05 Inside Job. In the fifth of six programmes Phil Smith meets some Lancashire nurses.

4.30 Kaleidoscope. Last night's edition

5.00 PM News Magazine with Susannah Simons and *Gordon Clough* **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather

6.00 The Six O'Clock News

6.30 Going Places. Clive Jacobs with his team survey the world of travel and transport.

7.00 News

7.05 The Archers

7.20 Pick of the Week. Margaret Howard selects moments from the last seven days of BBC television and radio

8.20 Any Questions? Joining John Timpson in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, are Germaine Greer, Max Hastings (editor, Daily Telegraph), Mrs Steve Shirley (managing director, F International), and Oliver Walston (farmer)

9.05 Law in Action. Magazine about law and legal practices presented by Joshua Rozenberg.

9.30 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke

9.45 Kaleidoscope. An examination of the Kodaly method, an education system developed by Hungarian composer Zoltan Kodaly. His results have hac a surprising effect on musical life here.

10.15 A Book at Bedtime. Love Lies Bleeding, by Edmond Crispin (5). Read by David March **10.29** Weather

10.30 The World Tonight

11.00 The Financial World Tonight

11.30 Week Ending. Satirical review of the past week's news (s)

12.00 News; Weather. **12.33** Shipping

VHF (available in England and S Wales only) as above except **5.55-6.00am** Weather; Travel **11.00-12.00** For Schools: **11.00** Earth Search **11.20** Playtime (s) **11.35** Music Workshop **1.55-3.00pm** For Schools: **1.55** Listening Corner **2.05** Let's Join in **2.25** Instruments of the Orchestra (s) **2.40** Listen! **5.50-5.55** PM (continued) **12.30-1.10 am** Schools Night Time Broadcasting. Help Yourself: You and the Law – Leaving Home **12.30** 3: Rights and Wrongs **12.50** 4: Rights and Relationships

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1:1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/247m:VHF-90-92.5; **Radio 4:** 200kHz/1500m: VHF-92-95; **LBC:**1152kHz/261m: VHF 97.3; **Capital:** 1548kHz/194m: VHF95.8; **BBC Radio London:** 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; **World Service:** MF 648kHz/463m.

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THE TIMES
First published 1785

Mills fits the bill as Souness eyes next target

By Dennis Shaw

Gary Mills, the Nottingham Forest midfield player, is top of the Graham Souness wanted listed as the Glasgow Rangers player manager scours the country for more English talent to take to Ibrox.

Souness has asked his Forest counterpart, Brian Clough, to name a price and has been quoted £150,000 as the cost of taking Football League player No. 6 north of the border.

"Although Mills is on the transfer list, he has been happy here recently since he has been *playing* well in the first team," said Clough. "However, the lad is naturally interested in thinking over the move though a fee has not yet been agreed."

Souness has given Scottish football a massive shake-up and a distinctly English flavour already this season by the signing of five imports at a cost of nearly £2m. If Mills decided to move north he will join Terry Butcher (formerly of Ipswich Town), *Chris* Woods (Norwich City), Graham Roberts (Tottenham Hotspur), Colin West (Watford) and Neil Woods (Doncaster Rovers).

Mills, who has broken his leg twice in his career, having made a dramatic breakthrough as a *teenager in the* 1980 European Cup Final against Hamburg, has been in consistent form on the left side *of midfield in recent weeks.*

Should the deal go through, Clough will be even keener to make a signing himself before the *transfer deadline, having* been forced to wait for Paul Wilkinson from Everton pending the return to fitness of Graeme Sharp.

Rangers' Englishmen

Date	Player	From	Fee (£)
May 1986	C West	Watford	200,000
July 1986	C Woods	Norwich	600,000
Aug 1986	T Butcher	Ipswich	750,000
Dec 1986	N Woods	Doncaster	100,000
Dec 1986	G Roberts	Spurs	450,000

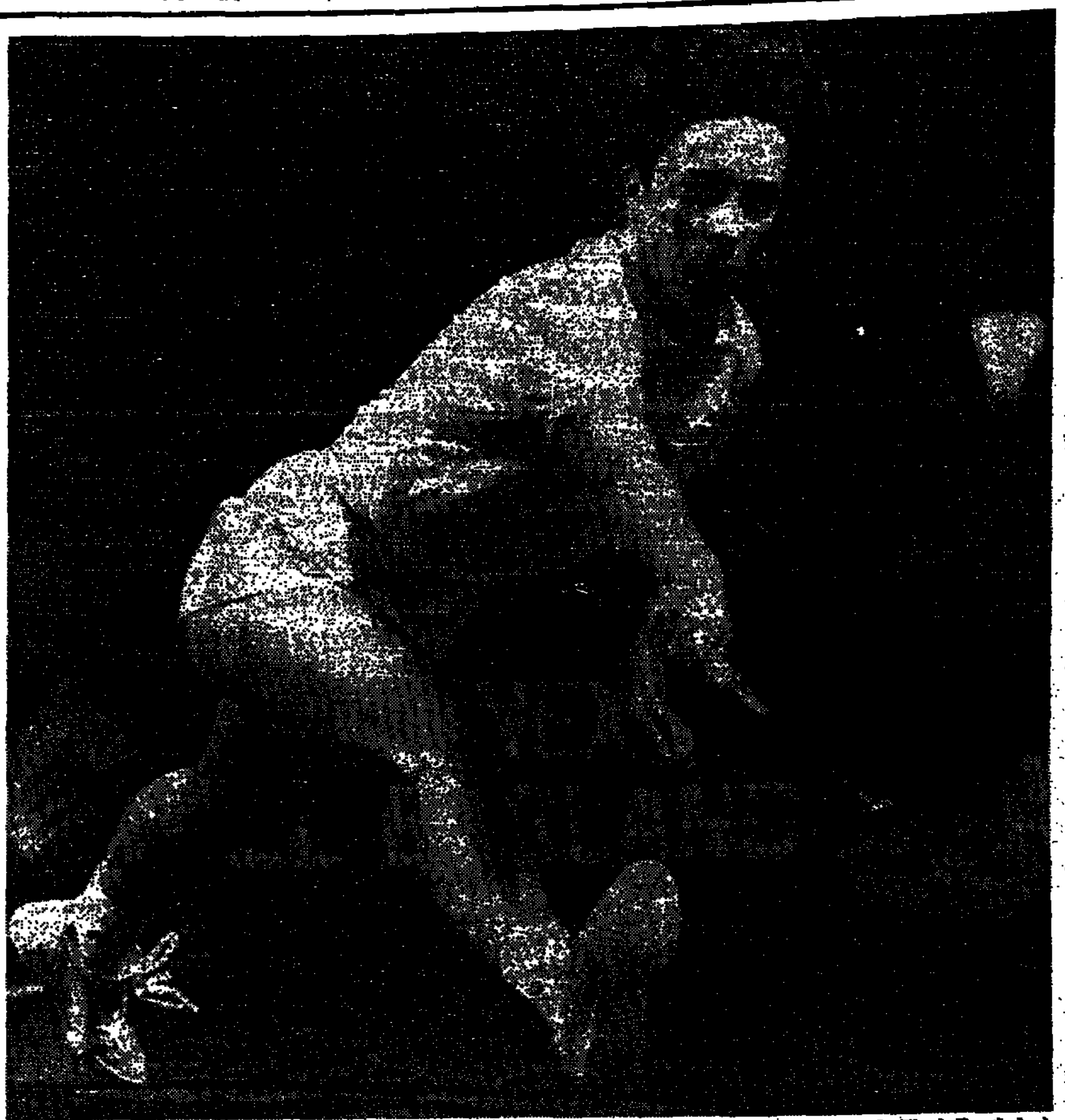
Celtic have joined Rangers in the race to sign **Oxford** United's Glasgow-born Republic of Ireland midfield player Ray *Houghton*. Souness had a £400,000 offer turned down last month, and Maurice Evans, the Oxford manager, said David Hay made inquiries after Billy Hamilton's benefit match at Manor Road on Wednesday night.

But Evans gave Hay the same reply: "Houghton is staying at the Manor at least until the end of the season. He *will be an Oxford player until* then and he understands the situation fully."

Huddersfield Town yesterday completed the signing of Willie McStay, from Celtic, for £20,000. The second division club beat **Charlton Athletic, Portsmouth** and **Blackpool** in the chase for the utility player's signature. Registration was being rushed through so the former Scottish school's and youth international, aged 25, could play in Huddersfield's the Central League at Scunthorpe United *last night.*

The **Brighton** forward Dean Saunders is set to complete a £70,000 move to Oxford in time to face **Liverpool**, the league leaders, tomorrow. **Manchester City's** £200,000 offer for the **Blackpool** forward Paul Stewart was put on ice yesterday when talks on personal terms failed to reach an agreement.

City are desperate to utilize Stewart's goal-scoring power in their fight against relegation and were confident that he would sign after they had agreed to meet Blackpool's asking price. But it is understood that Stewart, aged 22, was not happy with the terms offered by the Maine Road club.



Reaching for the Thai: Elliott, of England, accounting for Lertvoralak in the third round (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

Britons end 40-year wait

By Richard Eaton

Two English players reached the quarter-finals of the men's singles for the first time since 1948 at Wembley yesterday when Steve Baddeley and Darren Hall did everything that was asked of them in straight-game wins in the third round of the Yonex All-England championships.

Hall, who beat the world bronze medal winner, Jens-Peter Nierhoff, with something to spare and thus reached the last eight unseeded, perhaps did rather more than that. He moved like the wind, pushed searching flat clears deep to each corner, and outgeneralled Nierhoff like a man a decade older than his 21 years. The score was 15-10, 15-10.

Baddeley, by contrast, was not at his best but it did not bother him. "All that matters is that I win," he said, but it was not till he overcame a spirited effort by Kim Brodersen, of *Denmark*, a suprise representative in the last 16, that he was certain that he could do so.

The opposition seems to be falling like skittles around him. Sung Han-Kook, the dangerous Korean, was removed yesterday, Icak Sugiarto, the second seed, still looks below par with an injured foot, and Misbun Sidek, Baddeley's great rival and the third seed, was surprisingly beaten 18-17, 15-9 by a little player from central Java, Hermawan Susanto, aged 19.

MEN'S SINGLES: Second round: D Hall (Eng) bt P Joo-Bong (S Kor), 15-10, 15-6; J-P Nierhoff (Den) bt R Sidek (Mal), 15-6, 15-7; E Kurniawan (Indo) bt S Modi (Indo), 15-12, 15-7; Foo Kok Keong (Mal) bt N Yates (Eng), 15-12, 15-7; K Brodersen (Den) bt S Han-Kook (S Kor), 8-15, 15-11, 18-13; C Weng Kai (Mal) bt R Mainaky (Indo), 15-4, 17-1; H Susanto (Indo) bt H Nishiyama (Japan), 15-11, 15-3; M Sidek (Mal) bt I Frederiksen (Den), 15-6, 15-10; Cheng Weng Kai (Mal) bt R Mainaky (Indo), 15-4, 17-14; Yang Yang (China) bt P Larsen (Den), 15-8, 15-9; P Sung-Bae (S Kor) bt C Rees (Wal), 15-8, 15-0; M Frost (Den) bt C Adams, 15-5, 15-0; P Jonsson (Swe) bt Butler, 8-15, 18-7, 15-8; S Baddeley (Eng) bt S Thongsari (Thai), 15-10, 15-5; S Matsuno (Japan) bt L Jian (China), 15-12, 15-10; Sze Yu (Aus) bt V Kumar (Indo), 15-7, 15-4; I Sugiarto (Indo) bt K Chan-Ho (S Kor), 18-13, 15-13. Third round: M Frost (Den) bt P-G Jonsson (Swe) 15-0, 15-6; S Baddeley (Eng) bt K Brodersen (Den) 15-12, 15-4; E Kurniawan (Indonesia) bt Yang Yang (China) 7-15, 15-8, 15-10; Foo Kok Keong (Mal) bt Park Sung-Bae (S Korea) 15-11, 15-12; H Susanto (Indonesia) bt M Sidek (Mal) 18-17, 15-9; Sze Yu (Aus) bt Cheng Weng Kai (Mal) 15-10, 12-15, 15-10; I Sugiarto (Indonesia) bt S Matsuno (Jap) 15-1, 15-4; D Hall (Eng) bt J-P Nierhoff (Den) 15-10, 15-10.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Second round: L Lingwei (China) bt A Sandersson (Swe), 11-4, 11-2; K Larsen (Den) bt M Hoogland (Neth), 11-1, 11-8; K Schmidt (WG) bt K Ho-Sin (S Kor) 4-11, 11-9, 11-7; G Gowers (Eng) bt K Chan-Ho (S Kor), 4-11, 11-3, 11-2; A van der Knapp (Neth) bt P Nedergaard (Den), 11-5, 12-10; Q Ping (China) bt S Louis (Eng), 11-5, 11-1; C Magnusson (Swe) bt E Coene (Neth), 11-5, 11-2; C Hattens (Den) bt E van Dijck (Neth), 4-11, 11-8, 11-5; K Jinnai (Jap) bt A Larsen (Den), 11-4, 11-2; L Young-Suk (S Kor) bt Y Koizumi (Japan), 11-5, 11-8; F Elliott (Eng) bt M Hellsing (Swe), 11-5, 11-2; D Lertvoralak (Thai) bt L Wihlborg (Swe), 11-4, 11-2; E Latief (Indo) bt A Fisher (Eng), 11-2, 11-2; C Bostofte (Den) bt C Bengtsson (Swe), 11-2, 11-7; S Kitada (Japan) bt Chun Sung-Suk (S Kor), 11-4, 11-4; Kim Yun-Ja (S Kor) wo H Anderson (Den), str. Third round: Kim Yun-Ja (S Korea) bt G Gowers (Eng) 11-4, 11-4; Q Ping (China) bt A Van Der Knapp (Neth) 11-1, 11-1; Li Lingwei (China) bt C Hattens (Den) 11-2, 11-3; K Jinnai (Jap) bt Lee Young-Suk (S Korea) 11-8, 12-11; K Larsen (Den) bt K Schmidt (WG) 11-6, 11-2; C Magnusson (Swe) bt E Latief (Indonesia) 11-7, 2-11, 11-3; S Kitada (Jap) bt C Bostofte (Den) 12-9, 11-1; F Elliott (Eng) bt D Lertvoralak (Thai) 12-9, 11-4.

Simon Barnes, page 38

Bookmakers TV under scrutiny

By Our Sports Staff

The Government will not move immediately to tighten controls on the operation of the bookmaking industry to increase safeguards for punters. But it has begun to make warning noises, acknowledging the disquiet over the bookmaker-dominated satellite television broadcasting to betting shops.

Douglas Hogg, Parliamentary Secretary at the Home Office, has told Geoff Lawler, Conservative MP for Bradford North, in a Commons written reply: "We have no plans at present to strengthen the controls in the Betting, *Gaming and* Lotteries Act 1963."

Mr Hogg's reply continued: "We are aware of the concern about certain recent developments and the consideration being given to these matters by the Office of Fair Trading. We shall continue to maintain a close interest in the operation of the present controls". The Office of Fair Trading is looking at recent developments to see if they contravene the 1980 Competition Act or the 1976 Restrictive Trade Practices Act.

The Big Four bookmaking firms — Ladbrokes, William Hill, Mecca and Coral — have a 45 per cent share in Satellite Information Services (SIS), which will broadcast horse-racing and greyhound-racing direct from the tracks to the betting shops, beginning on *May 1*.

There is much concern in racing, as *The Times* has revealed, that so much power should be exercised by bookmakers. The only other shareholders of SIS so far are the Tote, with five per cent, and the Racecourse Association (RCA), representing Britain's 59 horse-racing tracks, with 10 per cent.

With an imminent deadline for completion of the agreement between RCA and SIS, the Big Four are repeating their claim that they do not want more than 45 per cent. Nigel Payne, the consultant for SIS, said yesterday: "The remaining 40 per cent is in the hands of Schroder Wagg, the *merchant bankers, who will be* handling the sale.

Mr Lawler said last night that he and other MPs would be watching closely to see how the provision of satellite services to betting shops worked out under the new arrangements. "We shall momitor *closely to ensure that the small* boys don't suffer at the hands of the Big Four."

Void race angers jockeys

The novice chase at Stratford races was controversially declared void yesterday after *the five finishers had all failed* to jump the last open ditch, the third fence from home.

The stewards' decision produced an angry reaction from the jockeys who completed the course as they had been waved round the fence because of casualties on the landing side from the *first two circuits.*

Bruce Dowling, who finished third on Isanemos, said: "It was virtually impossible to jump the fence. We knew there must be bodies there, but the stewards told us we should have jumped it whatever — it was ridiculous."

Paul Leach, second on Doddy's Special, said: "There was no way you could jump the fence with four or five people telling you to go round it."

● Rule 154 (1)(b) of the Rules of Racing states: "If all the horses have run over the wrong course, the race shall be declared void".

Irish absentee

Barrow Line, one of Ireland's leading hopes for the Cheltenham Festival, will miss Tuesday's Arkle Trophy *because of "sore feet", his* trainer, Pat Hughes, said last night.

Senior compulsory figures could go

From John Hennessy, Cincinnati

Figure skating is faced with drastic changes in the near future. Proposals to be put before the congress of the International Skating Union (ISU) at Davos in May next year will recommend the dropping of compulsory figures at senior level. Sonia Bianchetti, who chairs the figure-skating committee of the ISU, thought the change, if accepted, would *take effect from the following* season, at the start of a new Olympic cycle.

Mrs Bianchetti recognizes *that there might be some* dissent among the die-hards of the sport but, she said here yesterday: "In general the reactions are quite positive."

She was concerned that there was so little support for figure skating, as distinct from ice dancing, in Europe. "We *have to do something to regain* public interest," she says. "Sometimes the rinks are almost empty and I can't be satisfied with a situation like that. People don't even know we have figures. They only know what they see on television."

She thought it was pointless any more for skaters who have reached the top to continue to spend three or four hours a day *practising figures. "They are* vital when you start skating," she explains, "to help you control the skates and do nice, deep curves, but they can be pushed towards a perfection *that is quite useless for free* skating and they take so many hours of effort and anguish." In deleting the figures, the skaters and trainers would have more time to create better choreography, "beautiful steps and beautiful movements".

She was not very excited at the thought of the first quadruple jump developed by Brian Boitano, of the United *States.* "I've *got nothing* against the big jumps," she says, "but I want to see figure skating going into another, more artistic, direction.

"I think free skating programmes should be evaluated as a package, and a triple jump, more or less, or even a quad, should not have any special significance. We mustn't forget that what happens in between the jumps is important, too. I don't like to see a skater simply stroking from one end of the rink to the other in order to wind up for a *big jump.*" If we take out the compulsory figures — only for senior skaters, remember — there will be more time to develop a complete programme.

More ice skating, page 38

Bates faces noisy and tough test

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Mexico City

Jeremy Bates, the only British player with much experience of Davis Cup tennis, will play the best of the Mexicans, Francisco Maciel, in the first match of the first round tie that begins here today.

In the second singles Andrew Castle, who has only one tie behind him, will play Leonardo Lavalle, aged 19, who has recently been out of the game through injury. Lavalle is rather a controversial choice for Mexico as it was widely considered that Jorge Lozano was currently in better form.

The doubles pairings are provisional. Lavalle and Lozano have been listed to play two Davis Cup newcomers, Stuart Bale and Nick Fulwood. In Sunday's singles Maciel will play Castle and the tie will end with a match between Lavalle and Bates.

Mexico start as strong favourites, chiefly because the shale courts and the noisily patriotic crowd, *plus the altitude*, will all be in their favour.

DRAW (today): F Maciel v JBates, L Lavalle v A Castle. Tomorrow (provisional): Lavalle and G Lozano v S Bale and NFulwood. Sunday: Maciel v Castle, Lavalle v Bates.

● Boris Becker, who led West Germany to the 1985 Davis *Cup final, will have an uphill* task on Barcelona's slow clay courts in the world group first-round tie against Spain starting today (Reuter reports).

Spain's clay-court specialists, Emilio Sánchez and Sergio Casal, take on Becker and Eric Jelen in the singles, with both Spaniards knowing they have beaten world No. 2, Becker.

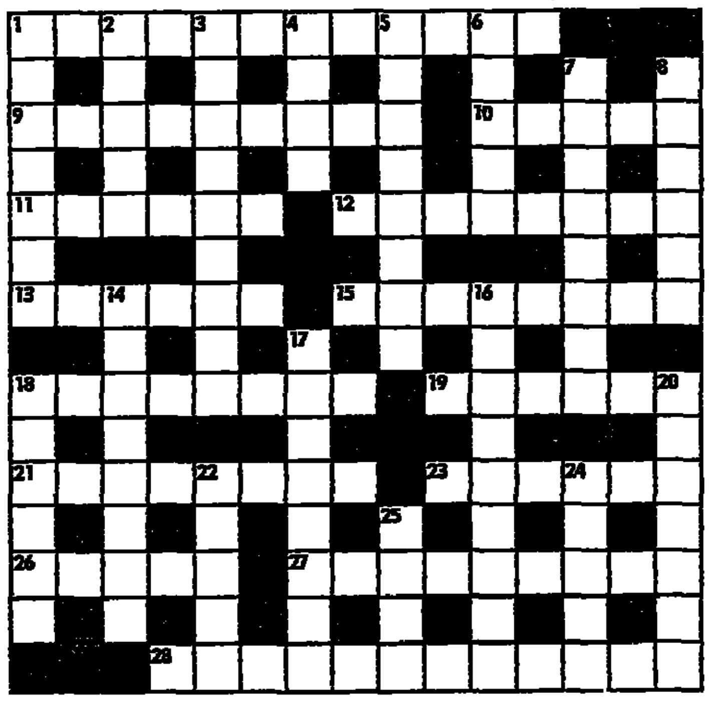
● The United States have called up the clay-court specialists, Jimmy Arias, Aaron Krickstein, Robert Seguso and Ken Flach, for their tough Davis Cup first-round tie against Paraguay in Asunción (Reuter reports).

Arias and Krickstein will play the singles while Seguso and Flach will team up for tomorrow's doubles. Paraguay will be led by the veteran, Victor Pecci, and the Argentine-born Hugo Chapacu, who will play the singles. Pecci *teams up with Francisco* González in the doubles.

● Sweden, the losing Davis Cup finalists last year, are *overwhelming* favourites to beat a youthful Italian side in their world group first-round tie starting today in Prato, Italy (Reuter reports). The Swedish captain, Hans Olsson, has named Mats Wilander, Anders Jarryd, Joakim Nystrom and Mikael Pernfors for *his team.*

Britain's search, page 35

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,303

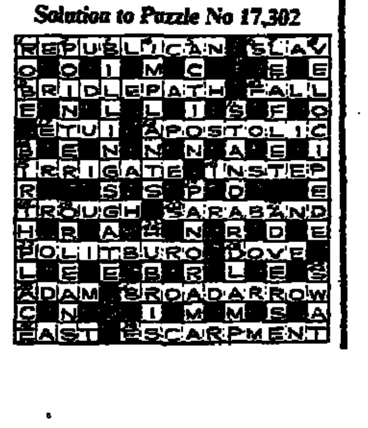


ACROSS
- 1 Extra job for doctor on dismounting (12).
- 9 Work of undisciplined linesman upsets severe ref (4,5).
- 10 Concealing nothing, in place of spokesman (5).
- 11 Face puzzle after work (6).
- 12 In the sea, the French like dancing (8).
- 13 Bloody awful pupil? No longer (3,3).
- 15 Quality seen on stage (8).
- 18 Convenient pieces for versatile workers (8).
- 19 Win confidence of underworld power (6).
- 21 Lost, dear? Switch central quarters for guide (8).
- 23 Limousines sought by film stars? (6).
- 26 Lustful extremes of ribaldry (5).
- 27 Even old actor leaves producer in city (5,4).
- 28 Stop, as one must at bridge (4,4,4)

DOWN
- 1 One who accepts aims of corrupt circle (7).
- 2 Maintaining advantage, *unlike* previous clue (3-2).
- 3 Nothing's right for Romeo and Juliet, say (4-5).
- 4 Soldier both sides miss (4).
- 5 They saw us rip ends off reference books (8).
- 6 Depression in corporation (5).
- 7 Flower is put in water I changed (8).
- 8 Be disparaging about second spot (6).
- 14 Argument could be appealing, so *to speak* (4-4).
- 16 Hero, for one, that's good man in crowd (9).
- 17 Repaired siren with instrument outside (8).
- 18 Springtime for university girl (6).
- 20 Man, perhaps, outwardly crazy? Fool (7).
- 22 *Authority remains* silent (3-2).
- 24 Vessel carrying vital supplies from China or Taiwan (5).
- 25 Does increase herd when they do this (4).

Concise crossword, page 14

Solution to Puzzle No 17,302



REPUBLICAN SLAV
O I M C E E
BRIDLEPATH FALL
E N L I S F O
ETUI APOSTOLIC
B E N N A E I
IRRIGATE INSTEP
R S S P D E
TROUGH SARABAND
H R A N R D E
POLITBURO DOVE
L E E B R L E S
ADAM BROADARROW
C N I M M S A
EAST ESCARPMENT

WEATHER

General situation: High pressure over southern areas giving way as fronts affect northern districts. Much of central and S England, together with Wales will have another dry day, with some sunshine, but morning fog and low cloud may be slow to clear away. It will become rather cloudy however by or during the evening. N England will be mostly cloudy, with perhaps some rain or sleet here and there. Northern Ireland and S Scotland will also be mostly cloudy, with some rain or sleet in the more E and S areas of Scotland, moving to all parts by nightfall. Central and N Scotland will be cloudy, with rain at times, some of it heavy and prolonged, possibly with sleet or snow at first over the hills. Similar temperatures in the S to yesterday: turning a little milder in the N. Outlook for the weekend: becoming rather more unsettled than of late, still with some long dry and bright periods though, especially on Sunday.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; t, thunder.

		C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	11	52	Malaga	f	18	64
Akrotiri	c	13	55	Malta	s	13	55
Alex'dria	f	17	63	Melb'rne	f	21	70
Amst'dm	s	2	36	Mexico C*	s	23	73
Athens	c	5	41	Miami*	s	24	75
Bahrain	s	24	75	Milan	s	6	43
Barbads*	s	29	84	Montreal*	s	-7	19
Barcelna	f	14	57	Moscow	s	0	32
Belgrade	f	1	34	Munich	f	-2	28
Berlin	s	-1	30	Naples	s	10	50
Bermuda*	f	21	70	N Delhi	s	23	73
Biarritz	s	11	52	N York*	s	-1	30
Borde'x	s	13	55	Nice	s	10	50
Brussels	s	2	36	Paris	s	4	39
B Aires*	f	21	70	Perth	f	31	88
Cairo	c	18	64	Prague	s	-3	27
Cape Tn	s	24	75	Reykjvik	c	4	39
Chicago*	s	1	34	Rhodes	f	9	48
Ch'church	c	14	57	Rio de J	c	23	73
Cologne	s	2	36	Rome	s	10	50
Corfu	s	9	48	Salzburg	s	0	32
Dublin	s	7	45	S F'risco*	s	15	61
Faro	f	18	64	Santiago*	s	27	81
Florence	s	11	52	S Paulo*	c	21	70
Frankfurt	s	1	34	Seoul	s	13	55
Funchal	f	18	64	Sing'por	f	31	88
Geneva	c	1	34	St'kholm	s	3	37
Gibraltar	c	15	59	Strasb'rg	s	3	37
Helsinki	s	1	34	Sydney	s	31	88
Hong K	c	21	70	Tel aviv	c	15	59
Innsbrck	s	5	41	Tenerife	f	23	73
Istanbul	sn	-2	28	Tokyo	s	12	54
Jo'burg*	s	25	77	Toronto*	f	-3	27
Karachi	f	27	81	Tunis	c	13	55
L Palmas	f	24	75	Valencia	c	13	55
Le Touqt	f	5	41	Vanc'ver*	f	12	54
Lisbon	c	16	61	Venice	s	5	41
Locarno	s	6	43	Vienna	s	-4	25
L Angels*	s	17	63	Warsaw	s	-3	27
Luxembg	s	0	32	Wash'ton*	f	2	36
Madrid	f	11	52	Wel'nton	c	16	61
Majorca	s	15	59	Zurich	c	-2	28

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	•				
Bridlington	9.6	-	5	41	sunny
Cromer	9.5	-	4	39	sunny
Lowestoft	8.8	-	4	39	sunny
Clacton	8.2	-	3	37	sunny
Southend	9.5	-	4	39	sunny
Margate	•	-	4	39	sunny
Folkestone	9.5	-	5	41	sunny
Hastings	9.3	-	7	45	sunny
Eastbourne	9.0	-	6	43	sunny
Brighton	9.6	-	7	45	sunny
Worthing	9.1	-	8	46	sunny
Littlehmptn	9.3	-	9	48	sunny
Bognor R	9.5	-	8	46	sunny
Southsea	9.6	-	9	48	sunny
Sandown	8.0	-	6	43	sunny
Shanklin	9.2	-	6	43	sunny
Bournemth	9.4	-	9	48	sunny
Poole	9.1	-	9	48	sunny
Swanage	8.4	-	6	43	sunny
Weymouth	6.3	-	7	45	sunny
Exmouth	8.0	-	7	45	sunny
Teignmouth	6.0	-	7	45	sunny
Torquay	7.3	-	7	45	sunny
Falmouth	•	-	7	45	bright
Penzance	-	-	7	45	cloudy
Scilly Isles	0.1	-	7	45	cloudy
Jersey	9.2	-	8	46	sunny
Guernsey	9.5	-	8	46	sunny
Newquay	7.7	-	8	46	sunny
Ilfracombe	•	-	6	43	sunny
Minehead	2.8	-	5	41	bright
S'pool Airpt	9.9	-	7	45	sunny
Morecambe	10.1	-	7	45	sunny
Douglas	7.8	-	5	41	sunny
B'ham Airpt	8.5	-	6	43	sunny
Bristol (Ctrl)	6.7	-	7	45	sunny
Carlisle	10.1	-	7	45	sunny
London	8.8	-	7	45	sunny
Manchester	9.4	-	7	45	sunny
N'ctl-n-Tyne	8.1	-	5	41	sunny
Nottingham	8.4	-	5	41	sunny
Anglesey	10.0	-	11	52	sunny
Cardiff (Ctrl)	6.7	-	6	43	sunny
Colwyn Bay	•	-	5	41	sunny
Tenby	5.5	-	7	45	sunny
Aberdeen	6.9	-	6	43	sunny
Edinburgh	9.7	-	6	43	sunny
Eskdalemuir	9.9	-	6	43	sunny
Glasgow	9.5	-	7	45	sunny
Kinloss	9.3	-	5	41	sunny
Lerwick	0.3	-	4	39	cloudy
Prestwick	10.4	-	9	48	sunny
Stornoway	9.3	-	8	46	sunny
Tiree	8.6	-	7	45	sunny
Wick	9.2	-	5	41	sunny
Belfast	9.3	-	7	45	sunny

These areWednesday's figures

Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B Frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 200; Cyprus 80 cents; Denmark Dkr 12.00; Finland Mkk 9.00; France F 9.00; W Germany DM 3.50; Gibraltar 70p; Greece Dr 200; Holland Gl 3.50; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2,700; Luxembourg Lf 45; Madeira Esc 200; Malta 35c; Morocco Dir 12.00; Norway Kr 10.00; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 200; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 200; Sweden Skr 12.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 1.00; USA $2.00; Yugoslavia Din 600.

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	12.32	6.0	12.59	6.3
Aberdeen	12.17	3.7	12.17	3.8
Avonmouth	6.00	11.3	6.24	11.5
Belfast	9.53	3.2	10.21	2.9
Cardiff	5.45	10.5	6.09	10.7
Devonport	4.31	4.9	4.57	4.8
Dover	10.02	5.7	10.14	6.0
Falmouth	4.01	4.7	4.27	4.6
Glasgow	11.32	4.5	—	—
Harwich	10.54	3.5	11.6	3.5
Holyhead	9.22	5.0	9.43	5.0
Hull	5.22	6.3	5.27	6.7
Ilfracombe	4.54	8.0	5.15	8.1
Leith	1.30	4.7	1.47	4.9
Liverpool	10.13	8.4	10.34	8.5
Lowestoft	8.57	2.1	8.29	2.2
Margate	11.11	4.2	11.11	4.3
Milford Haven	5.09	6.2	5.30	6.2
Newquay	4.01	6.2	4.21	6.3
Oban	4.53	3.5	5.22	3.6
Penzance	3.32	4.9	3.56	4.8
Portland	5.32	1.8	6.19	1.7
Portsmouth	10.24	4.1	10.49	4.3
Shoreham	10.11	5.5	10.36	5.8
Southampton	9.54	4.0	10.24	4.2
Swansea	5.12	8.2	5.36	8.3
Tees	2.37	4.6	2.44	4.9
W'ton-on-Nze	10.49	3.7	10.59	3.7

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

THE POUND

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.365	2.265
Austria Sch	21.50	20.40
Belgium Fr	63.90	60.50
Canada $	2.165	2.065
Denmark Kr	11.50	10.90
Finland Mkk	7.53	7.13
France Fr	10.16	9.65
Germany Dm	3.07	2.91
Greece Dr	223	208
Hong Kong $	12.70	12.10
Ireland Pt	1.145	1.085
Italy Lire	2180	2060
Japan Yen	256	242
Netherlands Gld	3.45	3.27
Norway Kr	11.48	10.88
Portugal Esc	231	221
South Africa Rd	4.30	3.80
Spain Pta	212	202
Sweden Kr	10.65	10.11
Switzerland Fr	2.56	2.43
USA $	1.657	1.577
Yugoslavia Dnr	1030	940

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 394.5

London: The *FT* index closed up 6.6 at 1578.0.

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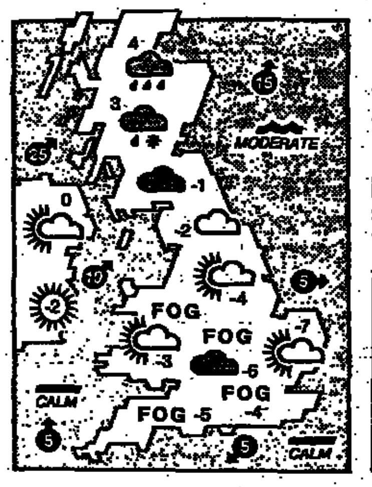
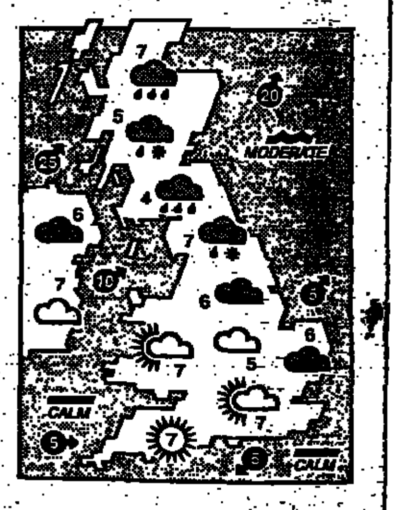
AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 6.31 pm to 5.48 am
Bristol 6.41 pm to 5.58 am
Edinburgh 6.41 pm to 6.02 am
Manchester 6.38 pm to 5.58 am
Penzance 6.53 pm to 6.09 am

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	s	4	39	Guernsey	s	8	46
B'mgham	s	1	34	Inverness	s	6	43
Blackpool	s	4	39	Jersey	s	7	45
Bristol				London	s	4	39
Cardiff				M'nchster	s	4	39
Edinburgh	s	4	39	Newcastle	s	3	37
Glasgow	s	1	34	R'ldsway	s	4	39

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Wednesday: Highest day temp: Anglesey 11C (52F); lowest day max: Clacton 3C (37F); highest rainfall: nil in; highest sunshine: *Prestwick 10.4 hr.*

MANCHESTER

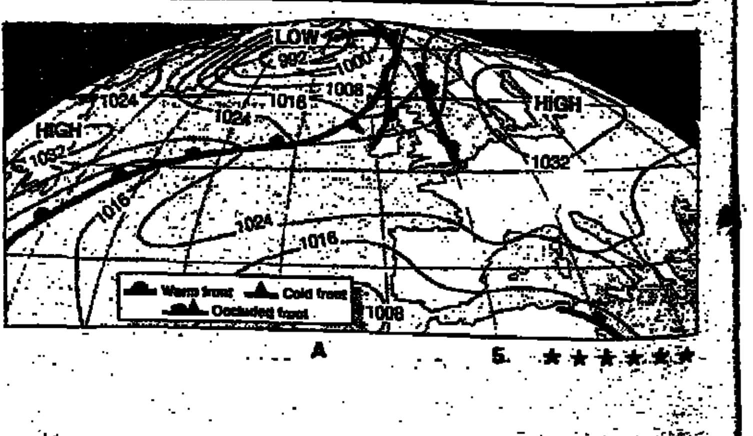
Wednesday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7C (45F); min 6 pm to 6 am, -2C (28F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 9.4hrs.

LONDON

Wednesday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7C (45F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 0C (32F). Humidity: 6 pm, 60 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 8.8hrs. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,032.2 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

Sun rises: 6.21 am
Sun sets: 6.01 pm
Moon sets: 6.03 am
Moon rises: 3.37 pm

Full Moon March 15

NOON TODAY